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Advertiser-News

Volume XXI Number 11

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

March 19, 1998

Supporting The Band...



THREE YEAR-OLD BRITTANY CROSS did her part to support the Agawam High School band by attending the band's pancake breakfast at Agawam Middle School. (See related photos in "Education.") Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Chicken Is Mmm Mmm Good!



JUDGING BY HER SMILE, it's obvious Kate Cunningham enjoyed her chicken dinner at Valley Community Church on Saturday, March 14th. (See related photos in "Church News.") Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

At March 16th Meeting...

Councilors Support Raising Fees For Water & Sewer Construction Services

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At its Monday night meeting, Town Council was unanimous in agreeing to hike fees paid for water and sewer construction services, extend Head Start's lease for three years, and submit a grant application for renovations to a group home for handicapped adults on Edgewater Drive. There was no discussion on any of the three resolutions.

The second reading of an ordinance to create the position of personnel assistant was approved by a vote of 8-3. The sole dissenter at the first

reading of the ordinance, Councilor Edward Caba, was joined by Councilors Gina Letellier and Dennis Perry in opposing the measure which faces a third and final vote at the next council meeting.

Perry said he changed his vote after mulling over some of the issues raised at the last council meeting when Mayor Christopher C. Johnson presented his reasons for requesting the upgrade of a clerical position to an administrative position.

"I'm not opposed to the position itself," Perry said. "I'm opposed to the timing of the request."

Perry said he believed the new position should be included within the town budget for next year, even though that will mean the position will be delayed for a few months.

SEE TOWN COUNCIL - Page 2...

TOWN COUNCIL - from Page 1...

"They've been doing a good job for many years and I don't think a few months is going to make a difference," Perry said.

Effective May 1, 1998, the construction service charges paid mostly by contractors and builders for new connections to the water and sewer system will go up an average of 17.7 percent in the Sewer Department and an average of 35.3 percent in the Water Department.

According to Superintendent of Public Works John P. Stone, the fees charged for construction-related services have not been adjusted for many years, although the cost of providing the services has increased steadily.

"The department currently finds itself in the position of having to subsidize these services from the income derived from the general user charge. This means that the existing customers and residents are paying in their water and sewer bills for costs associated with the construction and installation of facilities to serve new development," Stone said in a memo sent to the council last month.

Stone said the last time fees for sewer connection and cleaning were adjusted was May 1993; the sewer entrance fee was last adjusted in June 1990; and fees for water connections, meter installations, and services were last adjusted in 1988.

Johnson said the fee hikes are necessary in order to cover the actual cost of providing the construction services.

"It is simply not fair for residential, commercial, and industrial users to subsidize contractors and

builders," Johnson said.

The former Agawam Center Library on Main Street will be home to the Head Start Program for another three years.

Town Council agreed to continue leasing the building to Head Start for a payment of \$5,000, which will be used to pay for replacing the roof on the rear addition of the building, installing an irrigation system in front of the building, and installing a sign designating the building as the Minerva Davis Community Center.

The federally-funded Head Start Program provides pre-school and family literacy services at no cost to the town or to income-eligible families in a program that includes a requirement for a community contribution to the operation of the program.

"Traditionally, the community contribution is accomplished by providing space in a municipal or school building for the program to operate," Johnson said.

Head Start opened its first Agawam class in 1993 and there are currently 17 children enrolled in the program.

At the request of Planning Director Deborah S. Dachos, Town Council agreed to submit a grant application for the rehabilitation of a group home presently occupied by four handicapped adults.

The Housing Development Support Program grant is being sought to improve the handicapped accessibility of the Edgewater Drive group home owned by DOMUS, a non-profit organization based in Westfield.

DOMUS has owned the home for nine years and will pick up the cost of preparing the grant application.

Agawam Police Department's Arrest Blotter For March 9th-13th

On March 9, 1998, William Swift of 619 Springfield St., Agawam was arrested and charged with two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon. Arresting officer was Mark Poggi.

On March 9, 1998, Scott W. Haapanen of 726 Allen St., Springfield was arrested and charged with five outstanding warrants. Arresting officer was Jim Donovan.

On March 11, 1998, Barrington C. Douce of 25 Sutton Place, Agawam was arrested and charged with violation of a restraining order. Arresting of-

ficer was Det. Anthony Malone.

On March 12, 1998, Mark J. Lafrancis of 135 Bloomfield St., Springfield was arrested and charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol and a failure to stay within marked lanes. Arresting officer was Richard McDonnell.

On March 13, 1998, Jerry P. Will, Jr. of 33 Montgomery Ave., Holyoke was arrested and charged with domestic assault & battery, and malicious destruction of property under \$250.00. Arresting officer was Mark Poggi.

Melconian Declares Her Support For "Close The Gap" Bill

Assistant Majority Leader Senator Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) gavelled to Senate engrossment recently the "Close the Gap" bill, which will be sent to the House for further action.

Senator Melconian has been very supportive of this bill, which mandates a study to be undertaken, examining the disparity between male and female hires on construction projects and the effects of any discrimination against female construction workers.

The Executive Office of Administration and Finance and the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction will then develop and implement a comprehensive plan to eliminate such discrimination at state construction projects.

Currently, Massachusetts has no workforce goals for tradeswomen on projects receiving state money, although these goals are in force on the federal and municipal levels. It is vitally important that the number of competent women in the trades increase, or the field of construction will not be available to women as an avenue out of poverty.

It is essential that those women who are fighting to get off welfare and into the workforce have all the means available to them to do so in a dignified and responsible manner.

Although the availability of training programs for women in construction has increased, the retention rate of women in the trades has actually decreased, in part because of lack of adequate affirmative action hiring goals on construction projects. The "Close the Gap" bill will contribute to more jobs for women, as decreasing discrimination will serve to increase the retention rate of women on state construction projects, as it will allow more women to work with greater consistency in this field.

"In this era of shrinking welfare benefits, it is most important for both government and business to lend a helping hand to those who are earnestly searching for work, but are frustrated because of discriminatory practices in their chosen field of employment. This bill will help women 'get back on track' in securing well-paying construction jobs," said Senator Melconian when announcing the bill's engrossment.

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- Cicero



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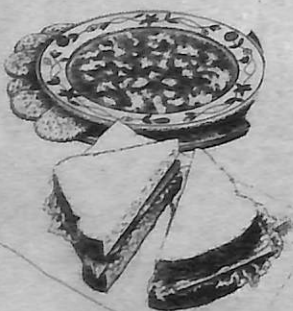
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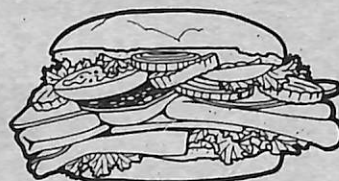
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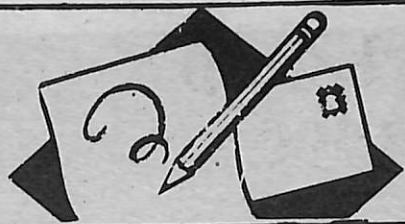


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Letters To The Editor

AHS Band Says Thanks For Supporting Pancake Breakfast

To The Editor:

We would like to thank all of the citizens of Agawam who came out and supported us at our pancake breakfast.

There was a great turnout and the band would like to thank everyone who supported us. A large thank you goes out to the Agawam Lions Club. Their donations and hard work made the pancake breakfast possible.

Without their assistance, the pancake breakfast would not have been the success that it was. Another thank you goes out to Hood Dairy for all of the dairy supplies that they donated to our cause.

Thank you to both groups for their constant support of the band. Without such support, our fundraisers cannot be successful. Thank you again to all of the citizens of Agawam. Your support keeps us going.

Sincerely,
Shawn Sherry & Carolyn Cline
Band Co-Presidents

Melconian Seeks Public Input Regarding Budget Initiatives

To The Editor:

I am writing to inform you that it is that time of year when the Senate begins to focus its full attention on the State budget for FY'99.

As Assistant Majority Leader, I am confident that we in the Hampden District can have an even stronger voice in assuring that our needs are met responsibly and appropriately in the State budget process.

Please contact me by Monday, April 6th with your requests for consideration in the state budget. This will allow my staff ample time to work with the Senate Ways and Means Committee in researching the issue, reviewing the line item, and drafting any appropriate language for inclusion in the Senate Ways and Means budget when it is reported to the full Senate. Please send the proposals in writing to: The Honorable Linda J. Melconian, Assistant Majority Leader, State House, Room 320, Boston, MA 02133.

I look forward to working with you to develop good budget initiatives. If you wish to meet with me to discuss your proposals, please set up an appointment through Betty Tate in my District office, at 786-6033. I have set aside time for these appointments as the need arises. With best wishes.

Sincerely,
Linda J. Melconian
Assistant Majority Leader

ADVERTISER NEWS



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Veterans' Corner... Upcoming Legislation Dealing With Veterans

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent

The first order of business this week is to publicly thank *The Agawam Advertiser News* for publishing the *Veterans' Corner*. During the past two weeks, I discussed the availability of VA Non-Service Connected Pensions, Widows' Pensions, and Annuities.

We have had many inquiries regarding these benefits. A widow of a veteran called about the Widows' Pension availability. I suggested she call Social Security before applying since she could be eligible for benefits under her late husband's Social Security.

She was pleasantly surprised to learn that she was indeed eligible and will soon receive her benefit. She will not be eligible for the Widows' Pension now, but will receive the higher amount under Social Security. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT WIDOWS ARE ELIGIBLE TO FILE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS UNDER THEIR LATE HUSBAND'S SOCIAL SECURITY AT AGE 60.

Last week, I attended a press conference at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home with Governor A. Paul Cellucci as guest of honor. I was extremely impressed and pleased at the Governor's announcement that his budget, called "House I," contains a \$550,000 allowance for a new Alzheimer's Unit at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home.

In speaking with Soldiers' Home Director Paul Morin, he explained that the waiting list for their current Alzheimer's Unit is longer than the list for long-term care. House I needs the approval of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The second announcement was about a \$5,000 income tax reduction for those families who provide live-in care for an elderly parent. The Governor explained that many times families known as the "sandwich generation" (those with children of

college-age attending school and caring for an aged parent) have a difficult time juggling finances.

The passage of this item in Budget I would put an additional \$300 into the pockets of these families each year. Both items will need the approval vote of both the House and Senate.

I watched the news and read the article in the local papers and was disappointed to see that there was very little focus on the \$5,000 income tax deduction and one media item never mentioned the Alzheimer's Unit.

I guess that bothers me due to the fact that I deal with so many of these families facing Alzheimer's in one of their loved ones and are at a loss in trying to find facilities for long-term care. Believe me, it is a real problem, as many facilities have long waiting lists. An additional unit at the Soldiers' Home is sorely needed. The hearings are going on right now. Time is of the essence.

YOUR LETTERS WOULD BE A GREAT HELP IN THIS REGARD. PLEASE WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT. THEY NEEDN'T BE LONG, BUT DIRECT AND TO THE POINT.

Letters should be sent to Representative Paul Haley, Chairman of House Ways and Means, and to Senator Stanley Rosenberg, Chairman of Senate Ways and Means, State House, Boston, MA 02133. CC to Senator Linda J. Melconian and our State Rep. Dan Keenan.

I have worked for over 10 years as a member of The Mass. Veterans' Agents Assoc. Legislative Committee for a very good reason. With enough support, you can help get positive legislation passed. THE SQUEAKY WHEEL REALLY DOES GET THE GREASE! THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE THAT NEED YOUR HELP! Questions, Contact Veterans' Services, Town Hall, 786-0400, ext. 236 or 237.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, March 26, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Muskus for property located at 42 Willowbrook Drive.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: March 19, 1998

LEGAL NOTICE

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TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, March 26, 1998 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for work to be performed on River Road, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: March 19, 1998

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At Agawam Baptist Church, Main Street
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 21st
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At Agawam Public Library
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School Committee Holds 1st Workshop On Budget Proposal For 1998-1999

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

On Tuesday evening, at its first of three scheduled budget workshops, the School Committee gave tentative approval to spending proposals for eight cost centers including the four elementary schools, central office, School Committee, transportation, and the gifted program for elementary and Middle School students.

The remaining two School Committee budget workshops will be held on Tuesday, March 31st, and Tuesday, April 7th, in the Middle School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. At the request of School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson, the public hearing on the School Budget was set for the regularly scheduled School Committee meeting on Tuesday, April 14th.

The School Department's proposed \$21.9 million budget for the upcoming school year reflects an increase of eight percent over the last budget.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruso said he is making good on his promise last year to make the theme for the next budget the "year of staffing" by setting aside \$448,620 to fund 15 new positions.

The new staff positions recommended in the superintendent's budget include:

- **Clark School:** one first-grade teacher, one-half reading recovery teacher, and one full-time adjustment counselor.
- **Phelps School:** one third-grade teacher.
- **Robinson Park School:** one-half kindergarten teacher to create a full-time integrated kindergarten class.
- **Middle School:** one full-time counselor.
- **Junior High School:** two world language teachers.

• **High School:** one science teacher, one math teacher, one social studies teacher, one resource teacher, one DLC teacher, and a full-time Special Education teaching assistant.

• One full-time substance abuse counselor will serve both the Junior High and High School.

Ameruso outlined eight specific areas being addressed by the increase in funding: contract negotiations, staffing, professional development, curriculum, pupil personnel services, Special Education, technology, and athletics/intramurals.

The School Department is currently engaged in collective bargaining with five bargaining units, the teachers' contract representing the single largest expense. While no specific information regarding the negotiations will be made public until agreement is reached between the School Department and the unions, money has been set aside in the salary reserve account in anticipation of successful negotiations. The total amount proposed for the salary reserve account (\$552,117) represents a 3.3 percent increase over the current level of salary spending.

No cuts to the budget proposal presented by Ameruso, Associate Superintendent Donald Charest, and the elementary school principals were proposed by the School Committee members, who were unanimous in giving their tentative approval to the eight segments of the \$21.9 million spending plan.

Sub-Committee Has Not Made Up Its Mind...

Members of the Town Council's School Budget Review Sub-Committee, Councilors Robert Young and Gina Letellier, agreed that they had not heard any budget items they would recommend cutting

from the school spending plan. Both councilors said they had not made up their minds what recommendations they would make to the full council when their committee meets to write its report after the School Committee finishes with its review of the budget proposal.

Ms. Letellier deemed the proposed School Budget "well organized and well laid out." But, Young said he shared School Committeewoman Teresa Kozloski's dismay over the disparity in class size between some elementary schools, particularly the first-grade classes at Robinson Park School and Clark School.

Under questioning by Mrs. Kozloski, the committee learned that the first grades at Clark are expected to have an average of 26 students, while first-grade classes at Robinson will have 16 students.

Ameruso said he will consult with the elementary school principals later this spring to determine if it will be necessary to redistrict some students to equalize class sizes.

Admittedly a newcomer to the School Budget process, Young, a freshman councilor, said he was concerned about the difference in the teacher/student ratio between the two schools.

"I understand they can only add one new teacher at a time, but I just hope they are looking at this on a continuing bases," Young said.

The cost centers given tentative School Committee approval on Tuesday were School Committee (\$49,700); Central Office (\$525,942); Transportation (\$1,409,695); Gifted Program (\$97,079); James Clark School (\$805,578); Clifford Granger School (\$1,026,441); Benjamin Phelps School (\$881,127); and Robinson Park School (\$992,534).

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A.D. McSweeney Receives "Unsung Hero" Award

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

How does a man get away with telling an overflow crowd of female student athletes and coaches from all over the state that he didn't think a woman was capable of serving as a high school athletic director?

First, he must admit he was dead wrong. And then, it's a good idea for him to introduce the woman he had nominated to receive a statewide award for the outstanding job she has done as the first woman to be hired as Agawam High's athletic director.

At least, that's what happened when School Committeeman Louis Massoia, Jr. announced Athletic Director Kathleen McSweeney as one of three women receiving the first annual "Unsung Hero Awards" from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) last month at National Girls and Women in Sport Day at Fanueil Hall in Boston.

After recalling that he cast the only vote against hiring McSweeney in 1991 while serving as School Committee chairman, Massoia said, "I'm sad to say I was the lone dissenting vote, thinking a woman couldn't handle the job. But, I'm happy to admit how wrong I was. Ms. McSweeney has done a fabulous job and I wouldn't trade her for any three athletic directors in the whole country."

An advocate for women's sports long before becoming a School Committeewoman, Teresa Kozloski has never regretted her vote in favor of hiring McSweeney seven years ago.

"Ms. McSweeney has shown her ability as a woman to take on this position, especially in Agawam where it has always been a male role," Mrs. Kozloski said. "She came in from the eastern part of the state and had to face up to those who had wanted her job and she gained their respect."

Advised To Do Something More "Traditional"

Accepting the "Unsung Hero Award" as members of her family, School Committee members, and school administrators looked on, McSweeney told the young women athletes how she had been advised by her high school guidance counselor to forget about making a career for herself in sports—that she should set her sights on something more traditional, like secretarial work.

"I always tell that story when I tell young people there are three things I hope I do as a person that they will learn from me. First, follow your dreams. Second, give back what you get out of sports. And



ATHLETIC DIRECTOR KATHLEEN MCSWEENEY (center), who received an "Unsung Hero Award" from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, with Agawam School Committee members Teresa Kozloski, Roberta Doering, Louis Massoia, Jr., and School Superintendent Frank Ameruso.

third, thank the people in your life who matter," she said.

For McSweeney, going out to lunch after the awards ceremony with the people who matter in her life, her family and her colleagues, was one of the highlights of the day's celebration of women in sports.

"My family drove in from the Cape and it was kind of neat having my family meet the people I work with and having my colleagues meet my family," McSweeney said.

The MIAA created the "Unsung Hero Award" to recognize women who have devoted their lives to the advancement of young female athletes without regard for personal gain or recognition. The recipients exemplify the best of what "teacher" and "coach" mean in the lives of the young people, according to the MIAA.

Hired as Agawam's athletic director in 1991, McSweeney was cited by the MIAA for her work in implementing and supporting young girls' athletic programs, and in leading the community to equalize coaching salaries, playing, and practice time for athletes, as well as funding for girls' teams.

Launched Girls' Lacrosse In 1993

In 1993, McSweeney launched the girls' lacrosse program at AHS by volunteering to officiate all home games without pay in order to get the program started. Currently a member of the MIAA Lacrosse Committee, McSweeney also serves on the district athletic association's executive board and has chaired the MIAA Softball Committee.

While recognition from her peers is a great feeling, the highlights of her career are the times she has been successful in adding a sport to the athletic department, and the times when former student athletes let her know how much they appreciate what they learned from the sports program.

"It may sound sappy, but it's true. A highlight for me is any time I see a kid or a parent who says 'thanks' after they've graduated," McSweeney said.

Also honored at the awards ceremony were student athletes Amber Conte and Kristen Patterson, who received certificates from Governor Paul Cellucci.

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State Rep. Keenan Announces House Passage Of Largest Tax Cut In Massachusetts History

Representative Daniel F. Keenan proudly announces the House passage of a tax relief bill which passed the House of Representatives on March 11th. The bill, the largest tax cut in Massachusetts history, guarantees a tax cut of over \$500 million to the citizens of Massachusetts.

Representative Keenan commented on passage of the Taxpayer Relief Plan by stating, "This plan is first and foremost about fairness, equity, and simplicity. The Commonwealth has enjoyed the fruits of a sound and robust economy, as evidenced by our budget surplus of over \$800 million. It is only fair to return to the taxpayers what is rightfully their surplus."

Under the Taxpayer Relief Plan, the tax rate on earned income (wages and salaries) would be cut from 5.95 percent to 5.7 percent and the rate on investment income (dividends, IRAs, and mutual funds) would be cut from 12 percent to 5.7 per-

cent. In addition, the rate on capital gains held for more than 18 months would be set at a rate of 5.7 percent, thereby insuring uniformity in our tax code between all types of income. Finally, the rate on short-term capital gains (those held for less than 18 months) would be cut from 12 percent to 10 percent.

In addition to the historic cuts in income tax rates, the house plan allows homeowners to deduct the first \$250,000 (if filing singularly) or \$500,000 (if filing jointly) of capital gains from a primary residence. This tax cut is a tremendous advantage to empty-nester who wish to use the equity in their homes to finance their retirements.

The Taxpayer Relief Plan also cuts taxes for families by increasing existing deductions and exemptions. The plan increases the Dependent Exemption from \$1,000 to \$1,500 and expands the definition of a dependent to include elderly and disabled relatives living in the taxpayer's home. The increase in the eligibility requirement extends

the exemption to approximately 65,000 persons making the Dependent Exemption available to 950,000 taxpayers.

The Dependent Under-12 Deduction, presently valued at \$1,200, would be increased to \$2,400 and expand the eligibility from children under 12 to children under 18. This expansion of the eligibility requirement extends the Dependent Deduction to an additional 200,000 dependents, affecting approximately 650,000 taxpayers. The increased tax savings for existing dependents would be \$65 and \$130 for newly qualifying children.

Keenan concluded, "Finally, the plan brings simplicity and uniformity to our tax code. One rate for wage, investment, or long-term capital gains income. It is a sound plan that will guarantee a tax cut for virtually every taxpayer in the Commonwealth—and does so without mortgaging our future or jeopardizing the Commonwealth's ability to keep our commitments."

Melconian Is Pleased With State Senate's Approval Of FY'98 Supplemental Budget Recommendations

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced that the Senate passed their FY'98 supplemental budget recommendations, which included Melconian's language protecting Hampden County vendors from losing a potential \$14 million in revenues.

The Senate's FY'98 supplemental budget, which also provided for \$2.1 million for the Hampden County Sheriff's Department to cover operational costs for FY'98, will be introduced to the full Senate on Thursday, March 19th.

With the abolition of Hampden County government nearing implementation, the ability of local vendors to continue to have the opportunity to provide services to the Hampden County Sheriff's department has been in doubt. Because of Melconian's efforts, the nearly 50 local vendors not cur-

rently under contract with the Commonwealth will remain eligible to bid on contracts after the state takes over county government. Currently, local vendors provide the Sheriff's department with services and materials such as automotive repair, culinary, custodial, medical, stationery, and uniform apparel supplies.


The language allows the Sheriff's department to purchase goods and services from local vendors who are not under contract with the Commonwealth. The language includes a provision that, in case of a tie of equal, competitive bids, the local vendor shall be awarded preference.

Without the Melconian language, local vendors, who are not under state contract, would have lost over \$14 million in revenues, because they would have been ineligible to bid on these county contracts.

A similar Senate amendment co-sponsored by Senators Brian Lees (R-East Longmeadow), Michael Knapik (R-Westfield), and Melconian passed the Senate last year but was rejected by the House of Representatives last summer in conference. If the Senate approves the supplemental budget on Thursday, the matter will be sent to the House for concurrence, where it is hoped the House will act favorably to protect Hampden County vendors.

As part of the Senate's \$220,727,005 supplemental allocation released, Sheriff Michael J. Ashe will receive \$2.1 million to offset operational costs incurred with a 7.6 percent inmate population increase, as well as a 4 percent Cost of Living Adjustment ratified in the department's recent collective bargaining contract.

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(Not Valid For Parties Over 6)

* When you buy one meal at regular price, your second meal of equal value or less will be deducted. Offer good on entrees only. \$5.00 bar minimum required. Not redeemable in combination with any other promotion or Early Bird Specials. 15% service charge will be added to your bill.

Coupon

Not Valid On Holidays

Wednesday and Thursday Only

Save \$5.00

With This Coupon

On Dinner For 2 Totaling \$20.00 Or More

This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.

— Agawam Obituaries —



Michael C. Beshaw

Michael C. Beshaw, 38, of Heywood Ave., West Springfield, a self-employed rigger, died Wednesday, March 4th in Westfield. He grew up on Silver Street in Agawam.

He was predeceased by his father, Charles Beshaw, Jr.

He leaves his daughter, Pamela Beshaw, of Feeding Hills; his mother, Joan Farina; stepfather, George Farina of Agawam; his brother, Patrick; of Agawam; three sisters, Anne Beshaw of Knoxville, Tennessee, Marie Strong of Greenville, South Carolina, and Susan Lecrenski of Feeding Hills.

He also leaves several nieces and nephews, stepbrothers, stepsisters, and many friends.

The calling hour was Saturday morning at Agawam Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home and Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church. Burial at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to Baystate Medical Center, Fundraising WMU5, Josephine Adams Fund for Eye Treatment, 759 Chestnut St., Springfield, MA 01199.

Michael was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan and the following article about him was written in *The Agawam Advertiser News* March 29, 1990 by then Sports Editor Bob Johnson:

Went to mail in my tax return the other day. After kissing the envelope which will net me a refund, I turned to get back in my truck. There was a guy working under his truck with the hood raised. I saw that he had a Steelers bumper sticker wrapped around the air filter inside. A further glance netted me a look at a Steelers license plate.

Just then, he slid from under the truck and was wearing a Steelers hat. He introduced himself as Michael Beshaw. I told him that I had a "Terrible Towel" at home. He replied that he had two of them. Was he from Pittsburgh? Nope. Just lives around here and still appreciates what they gave him in the 1970's. I think that it was a marvelous allegiance. Merrill Hoge must have given him one incredible thrill in the playoffs. Think of that guy the next time you see somebody wearing a brand new cap with the logo of a surprise team that is in first place early (or late). Root for your team and stay with them.

Anna M. Smidt

Anna M. (Cardaropoli) Smidt, 82, of 65 Kensington Street, Feeding Hills, died at home.

She was a waitress many years ago at the Suffolk Inn.

Born in Springfield, she lived in West Springfield before moving to Feeding Hills in 1944.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Her husband, Frank E. Smidt, died in 1976.

She leaves a son, William J., and a sister, Pasqualina Marvici, both of Feeding Hills; and two

grandsons.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and the church, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Carl B. Woodruff

Carl B. Woodruff, 88, formerly of 1097 Amostown Road, West Springfield, died in a local nursing home.

He was a 20-year storekeeper for Western Mass Electric, retiring in 1965. Previously, he owned and operated Woodruff Transfer Trucking.

Born in Springfield, he attended schools in that city and moved to West Springfield in 1960.

He was a communicant of the Church of Good Shepherd. He taught chair caning and belonged to many organizations, including the Melha Temple and the Samuel Sherwood Lodge of Masons.

He also was a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Springfield, where he received the Meritorious Service Award and was a 51-year member of the Oriental Band.

His wife, Marjorie Braman, died in 1995, and a daughter, Judith O'Conner, died in 1992.

He leaves a son, Robert C. of Feeding Hills; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at St. David's Episcopal Church, Feeding Hills, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery at the convenience of the family. Curran-Jones Funeral Homes was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church building fund, 214 Elm Street, West Springfield, MA 01089, or the Shriners Hospital, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01004.

Dorothy R. Sinay

Dorothy R. Linehan (LeClair) Sinay, 79, of 53 Sheri Lane, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

She was employed in the business office of the former Liberty Bakeries of West Springfield.

Born in Chicopee, she was a Chicopee High School graduate, a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a long-time Agawam resident.

Her husband, Henry R. Sinay, predeceased her. She leaves a daughter, Darlene M. Sinay of Agawam; a sister, Bernice Anzalotti of Nantucket; and a grandson, Jason R. Sinay of Agawam.

The funeral was held in the church, with burial in St. Rose de Lima Cemetery in Chicopee. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Saint Jude's Children's Hospital, Attn.: Memorials, 505 North Parkway, Memphis, Tennessee 38105, or the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Rudolph W. Kruger

Rudolph W. Kruger, 77, of 169 Forest Park Avenue, Springfield, died in Mercy Hospital.

He was a 25-year machinist and toolmaker at the Springfield Armory until its closing. He then worked at Carl Fisher Co.

Born in Manchester, CT, he grew up in Holyoke, and moved to Springfield 54 years ago.

He was a graduate of Holyoke High School and Western New England College, and a past member of the Springfield Turnverein and American Legion Post 430.

He was a communicant of the Holy Name Church.

He was an Army Intelligence Corps interpreter in World War II, and was stationed in Germany.

He leaves his wife of 54 years, the former Margaret C. Shea; a son, Paul J. of Las Vegas, Nevada; two daughters, Dianne E. Chiba of

Westfield, and Maryellen S. Marsh of Capistrano Beach, California; a sister, Leifla Laptas of Holyoke; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Hafey Springfield Chapels and the church, with the burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9a, West Springfield, MA 01089; the Arthritis Foundation, 29 Crafts Street, Suite 450, Newton, MA 02158; or the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Joyce A. Bielski

Joyce A. (Kennedy) Bielski, 53, of Candlewood Drive, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was a nurse's aide at the former Municipal Hospital, now Olympus Specialty in Springfield.

She attended Our Lady of Hope School and Cathedral before graduating from Trade School.

She leaves her husband, Adam of Chicopee; her mother and stepfather, Corrine and John Shea of Springfield; four brothers, Thomas of Enfield, William of South Hadley, John of Springfield, and Francis of Agawam; and a sister, Corrine Cataneo of Florida.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and St. John the Evangelist Church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Earl O. Dodge

Earl O. Dodge, 95, of 14 Craiwell Avenue, West Springfield, died in a local nursing home.

He was a 30-year employee of Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Division of United Technologies Corp. in East Hartford, CT, and worked previously at the East Springfield plant of Westinghouse Corp.

Born in Pittsfield, he was a long-time resident of West Springfield, and attended the Agawam Congregational Church.

He leaves his wife, the former Virginia Brown; two sons, Elwood M. of Springfield, and Edwin A. of Rockport; 12 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

A private funeral was held at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with the burial at Fairview Cemetery in Chicopee.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 10...

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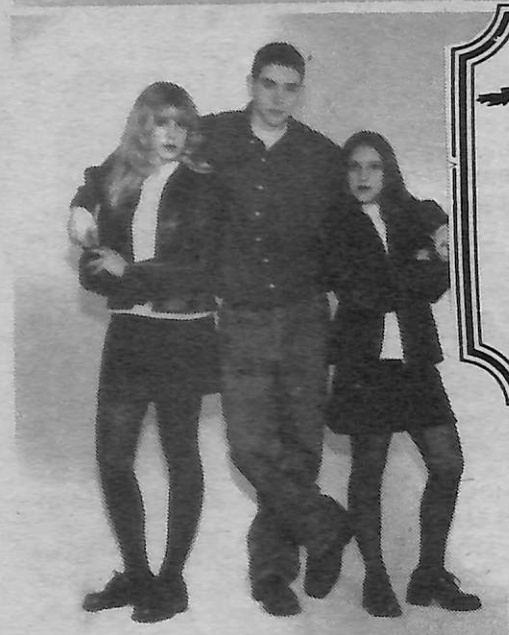
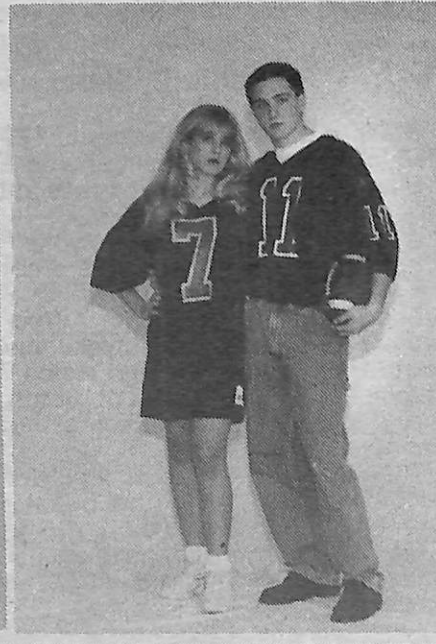
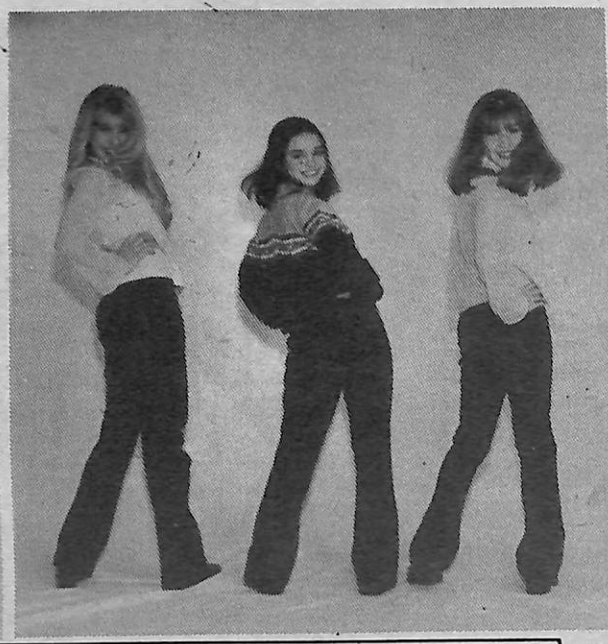
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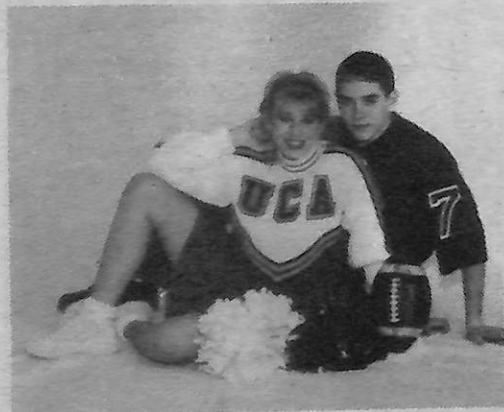
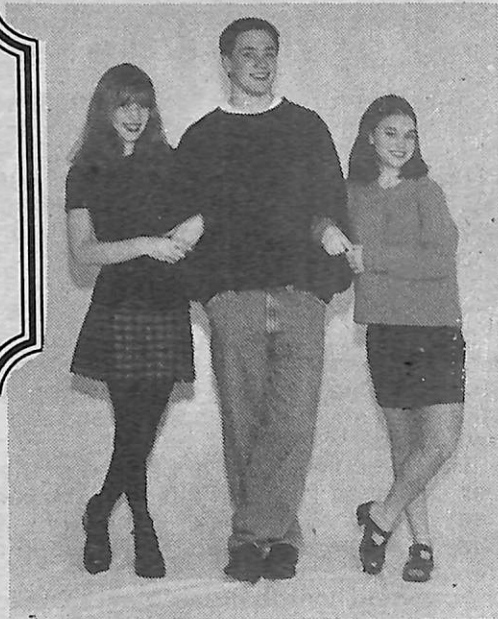
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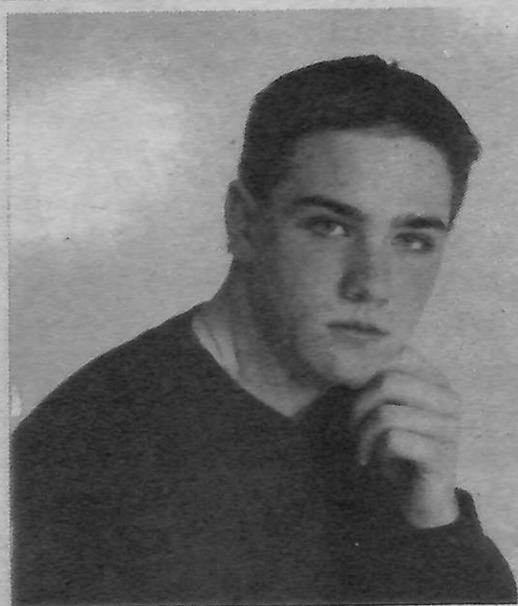
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Models: Christin Cilimberg, Brian Michel, Ashley Boyle, Bill Menard, Lauren Gagne, Jillian Nunziato. Photos by LaMontagne.

Classes Begin May 1st

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Stashia E. Skoczylas

Stashia E. (Pudlo) Skoczylas, 77, of Holyoke, died in an Agawam nursing home.

She was a 35-year seamstress at the former I.L. Strick Co.

A lifelong resident of Holyoke, she attended schools in that city, and was a communicant of the Mater Dolorosa Church.

She leaves her husband, Alfred J. Skoczylas; two brothers, Frank of Holyoke, and Theodore of South Hadley; four sisters, Helen Zajchowski of Chicopee, Phyllis Flynn of South Hadley, and Evelyn Krisak and Barbara Stelmach of Holyoke; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at Starzyk Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in the parish cemetery in South Hadley.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church renovation fund at 71 Maple Street, Holyoke, MA 01040.

Emily R. Sliva

Emily R. (Puza) Sliva, 94, of Bedford and formerly of Agawam and Turners Falls, died in a nursing home.

Born in Poland, she was schooled in Worcester, and lived there, in Turners Falls, and Agawam before moving to Bedford in 1994.

She belonged to the Polish-American Citizens Club of Agawam.

Her husband, Joseph F. Sliva, died in 1983.

She leaves a son, Fred L. of Belchertown; a daughter, Sandra J. Burns of Lake Mary, Florida; a sister, Sophie Facteau of Worcester; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Turners Falls, with the burial at Our Lady of Czestochowa Cemetery. Kostanski Funeral Home of Turners Falls was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Foundation Chapter, 11 Camus Lane, Easthampton, MA 01027.

Abraham Widlansky

Abraham ("Nipper") Widlansky, 85, of Agawam, died at home.

He was a truck driver for trucking companies in Springfield, and retired in 1975. He also was the former owner of a dairy company in Hartford.

Born and schooled in Springfield, he was a long-time resident of that city before moving to Agawam 10 years ago.

His wife, Margaret (Moore) Widlansky, died in 1987.

He leaves a son, Richard of Middletown, CT; a daughter, Elaine McQuade of Agawam; two brothers, Pat and Jerry of Florida; two sisters, Sylvia ("Toots") Levison of Florida, and Gert

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The Agawam Advertiser-News

March 19, 1998

Snyder of California; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the convenience of the family, and Sampson's Family Chapels was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Western New England Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102-9058.

David F. Sullivan

David F. Sullivan, 54, of Ormond Beach, Florida, died after being injured in a vehicle accident in Ormond Beach.

He was a district manager for Friendly's Ice Cream Corp. in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, for 25 years.

Born in Springfield, MA, he was schooled in Agawam and lived in Lancaster before settling in Ormond Beach.

He leaves his wife, Sandra (Ambrogio) Sullivan; two sons, David F. of Lancaster, and Michael M. of Washington D.C.; his father, Daniel F. Sullivan of Agawam; three brothers, Daniel F. of Guilford, CT, Mark R. of Agawam, and Thomas P. of Springfield; and two sisters, Kathleen A. McCormick of Bozeman, Maryland, and Ellen Barnes of Hebron, CT.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with the burial in Center Cemetery, both in Agawam.

Briana Marie Riopelle

Briana Marie Riopelle, two year-old daughter of Robert and Angela (Tetreault) Riopelle of Agawam, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield after an illness.

Born in Northampton, she lived most of her life in Agawam.

Besides her parents, she leaves a brother, Jonathan; two sisters, Nichole and Jacqueline; her maternal grandmother, Kathy (Mullen) Tetreault of Southampton; and her paternal grandparents, Gerard and Joan (Riopelle) Gladu of Chicopee.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, South Hadley.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Tabernacle Church, 2 Melody Lane, East Longmeadow, MA 01028.

Employment Program For Hampden County Residents 55 & Over

City of Springfield's Health and Human Services Department manages a Hampden-wide employment and training program. Persons must be at least 55 years-old, reside in Hampden County, and meet program income guides.

There are two methods utilized to gain employment:

1) One is classroom training which is provided to those who want to change careers or need to update their present skills in order to compete for employment.

2) The other training is on-the-job training. The employer provides the skills training for the new employee and retrain the successful trainee.

Training tuition fees are free to eligible mature workers.

If you are interested in gaining employment, call (413) 787-6861.

LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE**
**TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1998 at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of GENESIS HEALTH VENTURES OF AGAWAM, INC., which is seeking to modify a previous Special Use Permit, Case No. 1467 in accordance with Section 180-11, Paragraph H of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the "sub-division" of a parcel of land as detailed in Plan dated February 10, 1998 for the premises identified as: 462 MAIN STREET.

Ronald A. Hebert
Chairman

Published: March 19, 1998

ADVERTISER NEWS

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FireWise... How To Report A Fire - Or Any Emergency

by Fire Chief David Pisano

All too frequently, we hear of tragic stories regarding people who call to report their house is on fire, yet, in their fright, forget to tell the fire dispatcher their address. Others claim they called the fire department and the dispatcher kept them on the telephone asking questions.

However, what seems, at the time, like needless questions will actually aid the fire department in getting assistance quickly to your home.

- In the event you are in a residence of building that catches fire, evacuate the building and call the fire department at 911 from a neighbor's telephone or nearby office building.

- When the dispatcher answers, inform him or her that you are reporting a fire emergency. Tell them your name. The dispatcher may ask you to spell your name.

- The dispatcher will request the telephone number you are calling from, in case of an accidental disconnection or if additional information is needed.

- Next, provide the dispatcher with the address of the fire and the nearest cross street, if known. If you are in an unfamiliar area when you discover a fire and are unsure of the address, try to give the dispatcher specific landmarks, such as the name on an adjacent building, that will help the fire department locate the fire.

Motor Vehicle Excise Bills Have Been Mailed To Agawam Residents

The first group of motor vehicle excise bills for the Town of Agawam for fiscal year 1998 was mailed on March 5, 1998. This is the first commitment received from the Registry of Motor Vehicles for 1998 and includes over 21,000 bills.

This represents about 70 percent of the motor vehicle excise bills to be assessed for calendar year 1998. Commitment number 7 for 1997 was also mailed on March 5th.

In all, a total of over 23,000 bills were mailed. Unlike locally assessed real estate and personal property tax bills, all motor vehicle excise bills are prepared by the Registry of Motor Vehicles based upon information on the motor vehicle registration.

Therefore, all bills are sent to the mailing address on the registration on file at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. This address may differ from the address on an individual's driver's license. Anyone who has not received a bill by March 12, 1998 may call the Collector's Office at 786-0400, ext. 218, to inquire if their bill was issued on this commitment.

The motor vehicle excise is payable in full on April 6, 1998. If not paid, your registration and your driver's license may not be renewed. In addition, if payment is not made by the due date, interest at the rate of 14 percent will be charged on the amount of the payment that is unpaid and overdue. Interest is computed on overdue motor vehicle excise payments from the due date to the date payment is made.

Payments are considered made when received by the Collector. Detailed payment and abatement information is printed on the back of each motor vehicle excise bill. Any additional questions on payments should be addressed to the Collector's Office.

Taxpayers should not ignore the bill, even if they have moved or the vehicle has been sold or traded. Taxpayers may seek refund or abatement when a motor vehicle is sold or traded and the registration is canceled or transferred to another vehicle; when a registrant and motor vehicle is transferred to another state or country with proof of registration in such other state or country and proof of cancellation of registration in Massachusetts; when the motor vehicle is overvalued; when there is a subsequent registration of the same motor vehicle in the same year by the same person; or when the registrant has notified the local police authorities within 48 hours of the theft of the motor vehicle and has surrendered the certificate of registration to the Registrar not sooner than 30 days subsequent to the date of the theft and obtained a certificate setting forth the facts.

Application for abatement or refund must be filed with the Assessor in writing upon an approved form. Abatement information is printed on the back of the motor vehicle excise bill. Any additional questions as to how to file for a refund or abatement should be addressed to the Assessor's Office.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...

- Stay on the telephone until the dispatcher completes the questioning and disconnects the call.

- In the event of a medical emergency, stay calm and give the dispatcher as much information as possible as to the nature of the medical emergency. Many dispatchers have special emergency medical training and may be able to provide you with some lifesaving techniques to use until emergency help arrives.

Emergency calls made the right way help save lives. False emergency calls made as a joke are crimes that cost lives. False alarms tie up emergency telephone lines and endanger emergency personnel driving to the scene. Many dispatchers tape and trace incoming calls, and this can help apprehend those calling in false alarms.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Phipps Discount Liquors


Feeding Hills Center

1360 Springfield Street
786-8471

SPECIALS

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Killian (12 Pk.) \$8.49 Plus Deposit	MGD (Case - Bar Bottles) \$9.99 Plus Deposit	MGDL (Case - Bar Bottles) \$9.99 Plus Deposit
 Bud Dry (Case - Bar Bottles) \$9.99 Plus Deposit	 Heineken (12 Pk. Bottles) \$9.99 Plus Deposit	Seagram's Wine Coolers (4 Pk.) \$2.99 (All Flavors)
 Amstel Light (12 Pk. Bottles) \$9.99 Plus Deposit	 Smirnoff Vodka (1.75 Ltr.) \$15.49	 Seagram's 7 (1.75 Ltr.) \$12.99
 Bacardi Rum (1.75 Ltr.) \$15.99	 Seagram's Gin (1.75 Ltr.) \$12.99	 Clan MacGregor Scotch (1.75 Ltr.) \$12.99

WINES

<p>Peter Vella <i>Chablis/Rhinegarten/ Blush/White Grenache/ Delicious Red</i></p> <p>5 Ltr. Bag Box \$7.49</p>	<p>Peter Vella <i>Burgundy/Chardonnay/ White Zinfandel/ Ruby Cabernet</i></p> <p>5 Ltr. Bag Box \$9.99</p>	 <p>Corbett Canyon <i>White Zinfandel</i> (750 ml.) 3 Bottles For \$7.99</p>	
<p>DeLoach Russian River Chardonnay (750 ml.)</p> <p>\$14.99</p>	<p>Joseph Phelps Insignia <i>1993 Vintage</i> (750 ml.)</p> <p>\$45.99</p>	<p>R. Mondavi Woodbridge (1.5 Ltr.) <i>Cab/Chard/Sauv Blanc/Merlot</i></p> <p>\$11.99</p>	<p>R. Mondavi Woodbridge (1.5 Ltr.) <i>White Zinfandel</i></p> <p>\$8.99</p>

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WESTFIELD
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Families

"Epilepsy Awareness Dinner" Is Once Again A Wonderful Success

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee hosted its **Fourth Annual Dinner-Dance for Epilepsy Awareness** and Silent Auction on Saturday evening, March 7th, at Chez Josef in Agawam.

This year, Millicent Kelly, L.D., R.D. from Johns Hopkins Hospital, was honored for her commitment and dedication to the Ketogenic Diet that has helped so many children with epilepsy live seizure-free lives. The committee presented its "Inspirations for a Cure" award to this very special guest.

A total of 570 people got together to make this event a **huge success — and have a great time!** Representatives from the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts/Rhode Island, as well as doctors from both Baystate Medical Center and Boston Children's Hospital, attended this wonderful event.

Cindy Palazzi, representing Agawam teachers, presented the funds raised by her efforts in organizing a "Dress Down for Epilepsy Day." Rich Morassi presented a donation from the Agawam UNICO.

It is with the help of special friends like Cindy Palazzi and Rich Morassi that the WMEAC is encouraged to organize an event such as this to raise funds for the much-needed research and programs that support those living with epilepsy.

The Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee would like to extend its sincere thanks to all those in our community who have shown their love and support.

Agawam Lioness Club To Hold Next Meeting On Monday, April 6th

The Agawam Lioness's next monthly meeting, to be held on Monday, April 6th, will take place at the Lions' Den in West Springfield, and the dinner will be served by the Lions Club.

The guest speaker will be Agawam Police Chief Robert Campbell, who will update the club on the R U O K program that is carried out by the Police Department to check up on the homebound elderly in the community.

A Penny Auction will also be held, and it is "Bringing A Guest" night.



AT THE EPILEPSY AWARENESS DINNER-DANCE (from left to right): Bill Murphy, executive director of the Epilepsy Foundation of Massachusetts/Rhode Island; Dr. Gregory Holmes and Dr. Sandra Helmers, Boston Children's Hospital; Millicent Kelly, L.D., R.D., Johns Hopkins Hospital; and Dr. Herbert Gilmore, Dr. Joseph Donnelly, and Dr. Anthony Jackson from Baystate Medical Center's Pediatric Neurology Department. (See additional photos on Pages 13 and 14.) Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Amy Lee Hume Is Engaged To Wed Jason M. Deveno

Susan Hume of Southwick announces the engagement of her daughter, Amy Lee Hume, to Jason Michael Deveno. Jason is the son of William and Janice Deveno of Feeding Hills.

A February 6, 1999 wedding is planned.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Agawam High School and attended Holyoke Community College. She is a preschool teacher at Bright Horizons Children Center in Enfield, Connecticut.

Her fiancé is also a 1995 graduate of Agawam High School and also attended Holyoke Community College. He is a security consultant at Phoenix Home Life Insurance Company in Enfield.

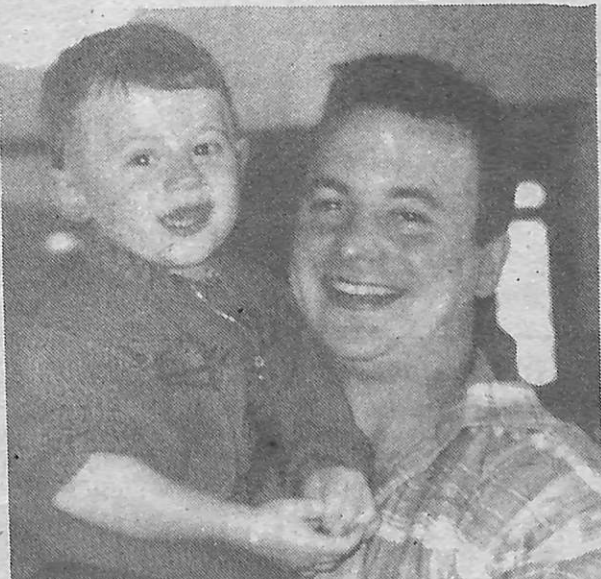
"Estate Planning" Presentation At Agawam Senior Center

Attorney Anthony Bonavita will host an informational presentation on estate planning, "Planning That Protects You and Your Assets," on March 20th at 12:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

If you are helping to coordinate the care and support of a parent or relative, feel free to come. Be prepared to ask questions. An information booklet from the Gerontology Institute and Center in Boston will be available to give to those attending.

Discussion topics will include, "Why do I need a Power of Attorney?"; "Should I have my home in my name if I plan to leave it to my children?"; "What should I do before entering a nursing home?"

Happy Birthday, Nicholas & Daddy!



We Love You,
Antonio & Mommy
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At The Fourth Epilepsy Awareness Dinner-Dance...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Vincent Pietroniro, Agawam teacher Cindy Palazzi, and Carol Pietroniro at the Fourth Annual Dinner-Dance for Epilepsy Awareness at Chez Josef. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Members of the Western Massachusetts Epilepsy Awareness Committee with the dinner-dance's honored guest, Milliecent Kelly, L.D., R.D. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Introducing Eleanor's FSO.



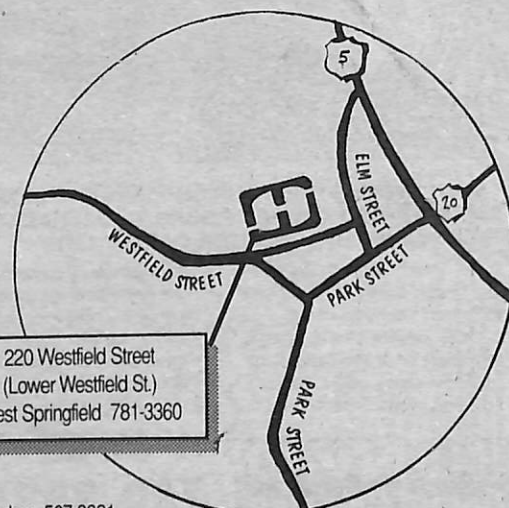
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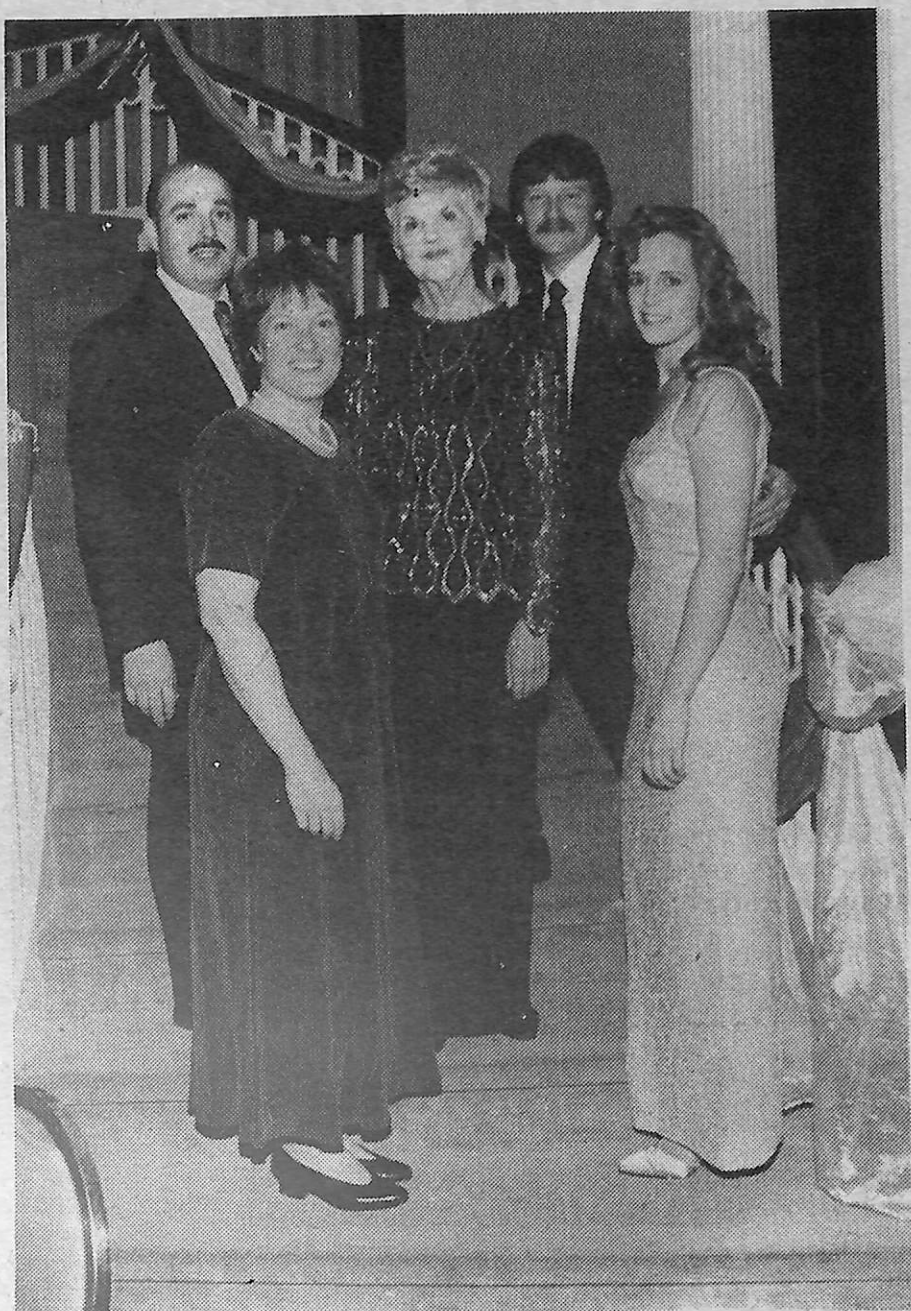
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In Support Of Epilepsy Awareness...



AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE for Epilepsy Awareness: left photo - Vincent Pietroniro, Carol Pietroniro, Millicent Kelly, Rich Martel, and Kim Martel; right photo - Vincent Pietroniro, Richard Morassi (Agawam UNICO), and Carol Pietroniro. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Agawam AARP To Meet On March 23rd

The Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter 4915 of AARP will hold its next monthly meeting on Monday, March 23rd, at 1:00 p.m. in the Agawam Senior Center.

The guest speaker will be Richard Mundo, Director of the Senior Center, and president of the Western Mass. Association of Councils on Aging. Guests of members as well as the public are invited to the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Best local news...

Agawam Senior Ctr. Will Help Residents Fill Out Fuel Assistance/Food Stamp Applications

The Agawam Senior Center is offering assistance filling out fuel assistance/food stamp applications.

Fuel assistance help in continuing until April

30th. Food stamp information and help in ongoing.

Call the Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242/243 for an appointment on Wednesday mornings from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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Family
Considerations

Dick & Yvette Locke Celebrate Their 50th Wedding Anniversary

January 17, 1998 marked the 50th wedding anniversary of Dick and Yvette (Carbonneau) Locke of Agawam and South Dennis, Massachusetts. They were married January 17, 1948 at St. Mary's Church in Holliston, MA.

The celebration day, planned by their children, began with Dick and Yvette renewing their wedding vows at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills. The ceremony was officiated by Father Ken Tatro.

The Lockes were then honored at a surprise party held at Storowton Tavern. Eighty-five relatives and friends helped them celebrate this momentous occasion.

The Lockes have six children, 15 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Pvt. Joseph P. Traska Graduates From Army Nat'l Guard Training

Army National Guard Pvt. Joseph P. Traska has graduated from One Station Unit Training (OSUT) at Fort McClellan, Anniston, Alabama, which included basic military training and advanced individual training (AIT).

During basic military training, trainees received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

During AIT, the soldiers trained as military police specialists and learned to provide support to the battlefield by conducting battlefield circulation control, area security, prisoner of war operations, civilian internee operations, and law and order operations.

Trainees also learned to provide peacetime support to the military community through security of resources, crime prevention programs, and preservation of law and order.

He was a distinguished honor graduate of the course. Traska is the son of Lisa B. Soloway of 22 Green Briar, Glastonbury, Connecticut, and Paul J. Traska of 67 Greenacre Lane, Agawam.

The private is a 1996 graduate of Glastonbury High School.

All the hometown news with us, each and every week — AAN!!!

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our
classified

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Congratulations
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who has been
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PAUL S. GALASKA OF AGAWAM (center), the Agawam Rotary Club's latest "Paul Harris Fellow," is congratulated by Everett Watson (left), Rotary District Governor, and Rev. Donald Morris (right), Agawam Rotary Charter Member.

Paul S. Galaska Is Named A "Paul Harris Fellow" By Agawam Rotary

Paul S. Galaska was recently honored by the Agawam Rotary Club as a Paul Harris Fellow. His work as a volunteer in many areas made him an outstanding candidate for this award.

Galaska served as Santa Claus for 30 continuous years in the West Springfield area and at Shriners Hospital for 25 years.

A 25-year perfect attendee member of the Rotary, Mr. Galaska is a Baystate Medical Center hospice program volunteer, as well as a volunteer driver, physician's helper, and personal shopper for the Massachusetts Association for the Blind.

He is the 45-year owner and president of Atlas Founders, Inc. of Agawam.

Why not surprise your loved ones with a "Happy Birthday" ad in The AAN? They cost just \$30, so bring in yours today!

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<p>Monday Thru Thursday</p> <p>Chicken Milanese \$9.95 Scrod Bella Vista \$9.95 Steak Fra Diavolo \$9.95</p> <p>Our Family Cooks For Your Family Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials Fine American/Italian Cuisine (Beer, Wine, & Cordials Available)</p> <p>835 Suffield St. (Rte. 75), Agawam Across From Geissler's Supermarket Next To Cumberland Farms</p> <p>All Major Credit Cards Accepted For Take-Out Open Daily Call 11 A.M. - 10 P.M. 786-7941</p>	<p>Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday "Specials"</p> <p>Buy 2 Any Size Pizzas, Get 1 Free Buy 2 Grinders, Get 1 Free</p> <p><small>(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons) Must Present Coupon — Expires 5/28/98</small></p> <hr/> <p>"Super" Tuesdays</p> <p>Half-Price Pizza Buy 1, Get 2nd At Half Price</p> <p><small>(Not In Conjunction With Any Other Coupons) Must Present Coupon — Expires 5/26/98</small></p>
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1998 Home Show Is Coming To Big E March 24th-29th

The 45th edition of New England's largest home show returns Tuesday, March 24th, through Sunday, March 29th, as the "Original" Western Massachusetts Home Show again kicks off the home building and remodeling season with Home Show '98 at Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield.

Recognized as the year's first and most important consumer showcase for the home, the Western Massachusetts Home Show will welcome an expected 90,000 visitors from across New England and the Northeast to view hundreds of exhibits representing the finest and most advanced products, ideas, and services for new home construction and renovation.

The Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts, sponsor of Home Show '98, this year named William P. Laplante, vice president of R.E. Laplante Construction Company in East Longmeadow, as chairman of its annual springtime event. Co-chairman of the Home Show is Paul R. Giguere, Western Massachusetts sales manager for Bay State Gas Co.

"Technology and communications have greatly changed our lives at home. We embrace the new age for the improvements its brings," Laplante said, "but we also cling to traditions that give meaning to our lives. Home Show '98 will focus on the coexistence of tradition and innovation in the home, bringing together the information and goods that will make our lives even better."

The theme of the 1998 Home Show is "Windows to the Past, Doorway to the Future." More than 350 exhibitors will offer the newest and best products, materials, and services for the home, as well as the skills of the region's finest craftsmen and artisans. Whether shopping for home improvements or a new home, showgoers will find a complete resource for the products and professionals who will help make their ideas and dreams come to life.

More than seven acres of exhibits will showcase the region's leading construction and craft professionals; home decorating and furnishing experts; home electronics, appliance and security system suppliers; exterior, outdoor and landscape professionals; real estate and lending representatives; household items to make life easier and healthier; and hundreds of free product samples and giveaways from exhibitors.

A new venue has been added to the Home Show this year. The Stroth Building will become "The Festival of the Home" and will house a variety of informative and entertaining displays, including a

demonstration kitchen which will feature guest chefs and cooking authorities. Sponsored by Mascaro Kitchens and Woodcraft in Chicopee and by Salemi Appliance Service of Springfield, the Home Show's demonstration kitchen will offer a place to sit, be entertained, and receive a delicious free sample prepared on site.

Two exhibits in The Festival of the Home building will offer opportunities to register for major prizes. The Western Massachusetts Home Show will sponsor the Home Show '98 Fabulous Furniture Giveaway, a promotion to benefit the Children's Miracle Network at Baystate Medical Center. A large collection of fine furniture and appointments valued at more than \$15,000 will be on display during the show and will be raffled off on the last day of the Home Show. Two dollar chances will be sold by hospital personnel during Home Show '98 at the Fabulous Furniture Giveaway exhibit and at kiosks in the Better Living Center and Young Building. Tickets are also available during business hours from WWLP TV-22, WMAS AM/FM, and the Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts. The winner need not be present at the 5:00 p.m. drawing on March 29th.

Also in The Festival of the Home building, students from the Pioneer Valley's technical and vocational schools will demonstrate the construction of a tool shed. A finished shed which will be on exhibit and the shed being constructed will both be given away to lucky individuals on the last day of the Home Show. Registration for a free shed valued at \$4,000 will take place at the exhibit.

HOMEXPO 2000®, the Western Massachusetts Home Show's electronics and home computing bazaar, will feature home, office, hobby, and entertainment applications of current technology in The Festival of the Home. Visitors will enjoy a stroll down the Street of Dreams, featuring photographs and drawings of the latest homes and remodeling projects of members of the Home Builders Association. Showgoers will also enjoy an art exhibit prepared and installed by the Springfield Children's Study Home.

The Better Living Center, Young Building, and the outdoor Home Town USA exhibit area continue to serve as exhibition sites for the Western Massachusetts Home Show. The floor plans in these buildings have been reconfigured for enhanced viewing, and the Young Building now also offers a large sit-down restaurant.

A dramatic feature display in the Better Living Center, entitled "Rooms to Come Home To," will

combine a state-of-the-art kitchen, a great room and dining room, and a lush landscaped patio. The kitchen is designed by Curio Nataloni of Kitchens by Curio in Springfield. The furniture and interior design is provided by Janet Lyon Interiors of East Longmeadow, and the landscape is by Bill St. Clair of St. Clair Landscaping in Wilbraham.

The Home Builders Association will offer its 1998 Consumers' Guide to the Home Building and Remodeling Industry at the Association's booth in the Young Building. This free booklet is packed with helpful information and articles about planning, financing, building, and remodeling a home. Included for reference is a list of members of the Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts.

General Admission to Home Show '98 is \$7 for adults; children under 12 are admitted free. Visitors may use Dollar Off discount coupons, available in publications throughout the area, to reduce their admission to \$6 on any day of the Home Show.

Hours for Home Show '98 are: Tuesday and Wednesday, March 24th-25th, 4:00-9:00 p.m.; Thursday, March 26th, 2:00-9:00 p.m.; Friday, March 27th, 1:00-10:00 p.m.; Saturday, March 28th, 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.; Sunday, March 29th, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

An expanded Senior Day schedule will feature early afternoon hours on Thursday, March 26th. Senior Days are March 24th-26th, the first three days of the show, when visitors age 60 and over will be admitted for just \$4. Seniors may use a Dollar Off Discount Coupon March 24th-26th to reduce their admission to \$3 per person.

The Western Massachusetts Home Show is reached from I-90 (the Mass. Pike) exits 4 and 6 and from I-91 exits 3, 6, and 7. Parking is plentiful and free.

The 45th "Original" Western Massachusetts Home Show is produced by the Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts Inc. Founded in 1939, the Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts is a not-for-profit trade association that has nearly 500 members operating in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The Association seeks to meet the housing and construction needs of the people of Western Massachusetts and to serve its members and the community by promoting the best interests of home ownership, home buyers, and the building industry. The Springfield-based organization is affiliated with Home Builders Association of Massachusetts and the National Association of Home Builders.

For more information, call (413) 733-3126.

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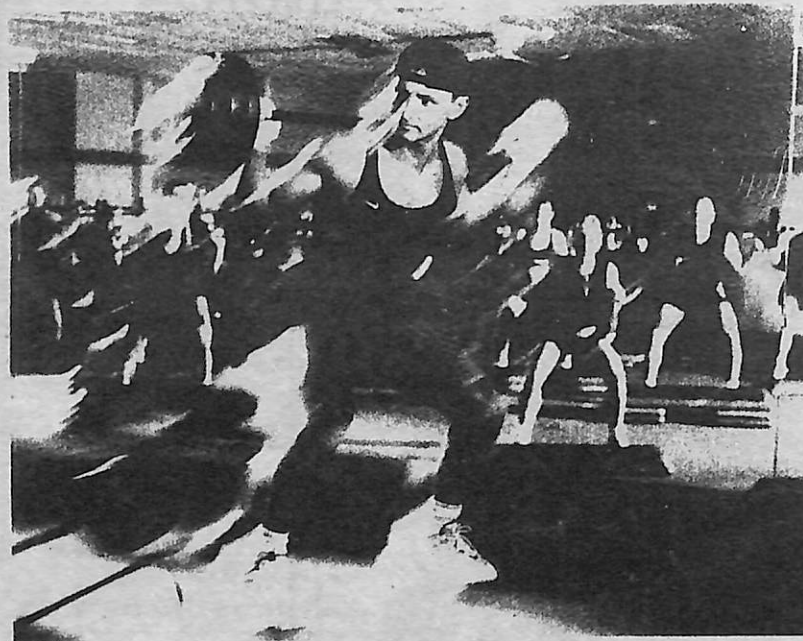
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Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, March 23rd: Shepherd's pie, carrot coins, oatmeal bread, tangerine.

Tuesday, March 24th: French onion soup, vegetable quiche, zucchini, applesauce.

Wednesday, March 25th: Chicken pot pie (potatoes, carrots, peas, celery, onions), tossed salad, whole wheat bread, cookie.

Thursday, March 26th: French meat pie, potato au gratin, peas, chocolate pudding.

Friday, March 27th: Baked fish, rice Pilaf, spinach, rye bread, pineapple chunks.

Polish Genealogical Society At Senior Ctr.

One of the most absorbing hobbies can be that of learning about your ancestors. If you have forebears about whom you are curious, you will be interested in a meeting of the Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts scheduled for Friday, March 27th at 6:30 p.m., at the Agawam Senior Center (Meadowbrook Manor off Wright St.).

Whatever your nationality, feel free to attend. The program, which is open to the public without charge, will feature a **help panel discussion** on genealogy and the audience will be invited to put forth their questions/comments.

Spread the word and invite friends who have always yearned to learn more about their family tree, a most fascinating and rewarding venture! For more information, call 786-4297.

Corned Beef Dinner At American Legion

The American Legion Post 185 on Springfield Street, Agawam, will be hosting a Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner on Sunday, March 22nd, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available at the door. The cost is \$6 for adults, and \$3 for children. Dinner will be prepared by Chef Jimmy O'Balboni.

Come watch the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade and then enjoy a great Irish dinner. All proceeds will benefit American Legion baseball.

This is a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and support the American Legion baseball team at Post 185.

The Gooch Is 16!!! Happy Birthday, Dianna

3/23/82



Love,
Mom, Dad & Danielle

Preparing For A New Season Of Activities...



THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE AGAWAM GARDEN CLUB. Standing - Ann Bradford and Terry Angotti. Seated - Teresa Greenwood, Peggy Shoemaker, and Barbara Pemberton. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Lioness Club Announces Ziti And Meatball Supper For Thursday, April 2nd

The Agawam Lioness Ziti and Meatball Supper will be held on Thursday, April 2nd from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This event is a fundraiser for the club, and will be open to the public.

It will be held at the Agawam Lions Den on The Big E grounds in West Springfield. Tickets will be \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 years of age

and under, and can be purchased from any member of the Lioness Club or can be purchased at the door.

Chairperson for this event is Alice Olsen and the following are members of her committee: Terry Angotti, Rose Keiffer, Rosemary Maniscalco, and Mary Roy.

Agawam Senior Center Is Hosting Trip To "Spring Flower Show"

The Agawam Senior Center will host a trip to Keene, New Hampshire to attend the "Breath of Spring Flower Show" on Monday, March 23rd from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

For more information, contact the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext 242.

Catholic Women's Club Slates Giant Tag & Rummage Sale

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will sponsor a giant tag sale/rummage sale in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church on Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Any interested vendor can obtain complete information by calling Betsy Ciempa, 786-5160. Spaces will be assigned on a first-come basis.



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48 Months

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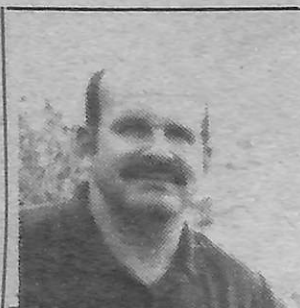
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Church News



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
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Reconcile With God

As the guest writer and naturalist Henry David Thoreau neared death, he was asked, "Have you made your peace with God?"

"I didn't know we had quarreled," was his reply. Apparently, though Mr. Thoreau was a man of literature, he had either not come across or otherwise had failed to grasp the words of Scripture, that **all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.** It is foolish for any of us to think we are in a position to present our own credentials to the holy and almighty God of the universe.

Each of us has failed to live perfectly, according to God's standards. If we are honest with ourselves, we must acknowledge that we have not lived up to our standards for ourselves. How much more, therefore, have we fallen short of God's standards?

Each of us is like the Prodigal Son in the Bible. He foolishly left the comforts and blessings of his father's home to seek his own fortune. He thought the life his father provided for him wasn't good enough. The Prodigal Son thought he wanted more; he thought that he was entitled to better. He hadn't realized how well he had it; he didn't appreciate that his father's rules gave him all the liberty he could handle.

The Prodigal Son began in the midst of the so-called "high life," but he wound up as a pig farmer

who did not even eat as well as the pigs he tended. He wound up so poor that he was envious of the pigs he was in charge of. In reality, life apart from God is about as meaningful and is ultimately as rewarding as life on a pig farm. There may be some bacon, but there is more mud and manure. The Bible tells us that **the young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

The Bible warns us that this world is passing away. **For all flesh is like grass and all its glory is like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord endures forever.** It's like we are on the Titanic, but we don't properly understand the jarring crashes we experience. We fail to correctly interpret the icebergs looming all around us.

Instead of rearranging the deckchairs on the Titanic, we need to get off the sinking ship! Many years ago, God called the people of Israel to cross over the Jordan River into a new land. God declared that the old ways were not good enough for His people; He had something much better in mind. They needed to get a new life. **So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!** Jesus declared, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born again from above."

Some may complain this smacks of escapism, an unwillingness to tough it out in the current circumstances. That is not how God sees it, however. **All this is from God, who reconciles us to Himself through Christ... that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespass against them.** It would have been nothing other than suicidal madness if a steamship had come alongside the Titanic, but the passengers refused to be rescued. **So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making His appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.**

Baked Chicken Breast At Ag. Congregational

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Baked Chicken Breast Dinner on Saturday, April 4th at 5:30 p.m.

The dinner will include salad, baked chicken breast, potatoes, vegetables, rolls & butter, dessert, and beverage.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church located at 745 Main Street. Reservations are recommended. A few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling the church office at 786-7111 or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908 before noon on Friday, April 3rd.

To receive notice of all our dinners by mail, call (413) 786-2908 and leave your name, address, and phone number.

Divorce Recovery Prog. At First Baptist

The First Baptist Church of Agawam is planning a New Hope/New Beginnings Divorce Recovery Program. The schedule begins with a seminar weekend on Friday evening, April 3rd and Saturday, April 4th and then continues with eight weekly Tuesday evening follow-up sessions.

The seminar fee of \$75 includes the program, workbook, continental breakfast, lunch, snacks, and the eight-week follow-up series. This program is open to any and all who are interested.

Please contact the First Baptist Church of Agawam at 760 Main Street, Agawam for more information. You may also contact the church by phone at 786-7300 and one of our Divorce Recovery Program personnel will return your inquiry.

Rev. Peter Monahan's column, "Reflections," is a weekly feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS...

888-413-2227

This toll-free phone number won't solve all the world's problems....



But it will help at-risk kids, save the environment and leave you with more room in your closet.

Big Brothers Big Sisters has begun to send out trucks to pick up your donated clothing. What can't be re-sold will be recycled. Proceeds will be used to recruit Big Brothers and Sisters for at-risk kids and you can make a world of difference.

Many of you received cards in the mail telling you when we will be in your neighborhood to pick up your unwanted clothes and other items. If you didn't get our postcard, Call 888-413-2227 and we will make sure we don't miss your stop.



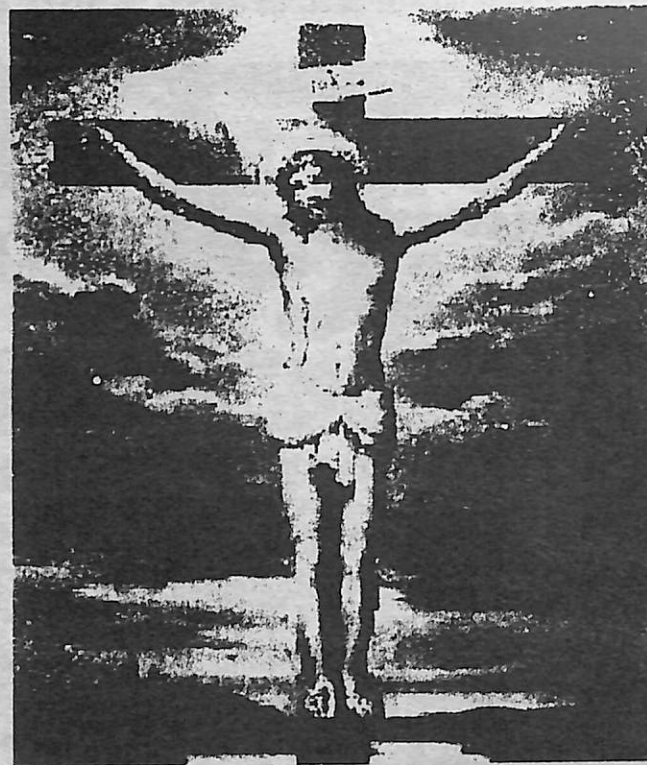
Big Brothers Big Sisters

HARTSPRINGS FOUNDATION

Serving our community - matching caring volunteers with at-risk children

And you thought giving up candy for Lent was hard...

Come worship with us this Sunday!



ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

699 SPRINGFIELD STREET • FEEDING HILLS, MA • (413) 786-6133

Worship Services: Saturday 5 pm & Sunday 8 am & 10 am

Sunday School & Nursery Care: Sunday 10 am

The Reverend Len Cowan

"RECONCILING AND TRANSFORMING LIVES
IN JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD"

Church News - continued...

Weekly Calendar Of Activities And Events From Feeding Hills Congregational Church

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for March 22nd, the fourth Sunday of Lent, will be Joshua 5:9-12, Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, and Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "Getting Jesus into Our Picture." The Lector will be Connie Haynes.

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Next week, we will take a special collection for One Great Hour of Sharing. Our offerings will replenish the OGHS "bank" so that financial aid can quickly meet emergency needs in our country and around the world.

After giving to OGHS, what *else* can you do about hunger? As part of a national citizen action network, you can put your faith into action and write to members of Congress concerning issues of hunger.

Join with others from this church who will meet next Sunday following morning worship for an offering of Letters to support Bread for the World. Lunch will be provided. (BYOS — Bring Your Own Stamps!)

The Board of Christian Education would like to remind everyone that their collection of Pennies for People will continue throughout the season of Lent. Please contribute to the Sunday School effort to send a physically challenged youth to camp.

Operation Friendship Slates 'Mystery Dinner'

Operation Friendship will be presenting "Dorothy Dinsmore, Gossip Columnist" on March 28th and April 4th at 6:30 p.m.

Performed by the Drama Studio Ensemble, the plot revolves around the story of a gossip columnist who has information on several members of the jet set. Dorothy hosts an evening dinner party where she tells her guests exactly what she plans to do with the information she has dug up unless they contribute to her "retirement fund."

The menu for the evening will be breast of capon, roast beef, or vegetarian. Tickets are \$15 and all funds will support local youths' travel this summer.

Call 786-7898 or 789-2410 for reservations and ticket information. Please leave a message if you get an answering machine.

A Scripture Project Bible Study series is tentatively scheduled to begin on Wednesday, April 1st, at 9:30 a.m. and run for six weeks.

Meeting time is flexible; please speak to Rev. Rob if there is a better time for you to meet.

Members will gather once again for a quilting social on Saturday, March 21st, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Even if you've not attended before, you are welcome to join the fun. You're guaranteed to leave in stitches!

The deadline for submissions to the church newsletter is Thursday, March 19th.

The Flower Committee is taking orders for Easter Flowers. Please speak to Sharon Rozanski, Betty Bava, or Margaret Johnson to place an order.

You may call the church office at 786-5061 if you prefer.

On the calendar:
Thursday, March 19th: Newsletter deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Friday, March 20th: Springfield Falcons' hockey.

Saturday, March 21st: 1:00 p.m., Quilting Social.

Sunday, March 22nd: 10:00 a.m., One Great Hour of Sharing Collection; Junior Choir practice after church; offering of letters after church; 6:00 p.m., OF play practice.

Monday, March 23rd: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.

Tuesday, March 24th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, March 25th: 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:30 p.m., OF play practice.

Thursday, March 26th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Tag/Rummage Sale Slated By Catholic Women's Club

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam is seeking vendors and crafters for a tag/rummage sale to be held on April 25th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., Agawam.

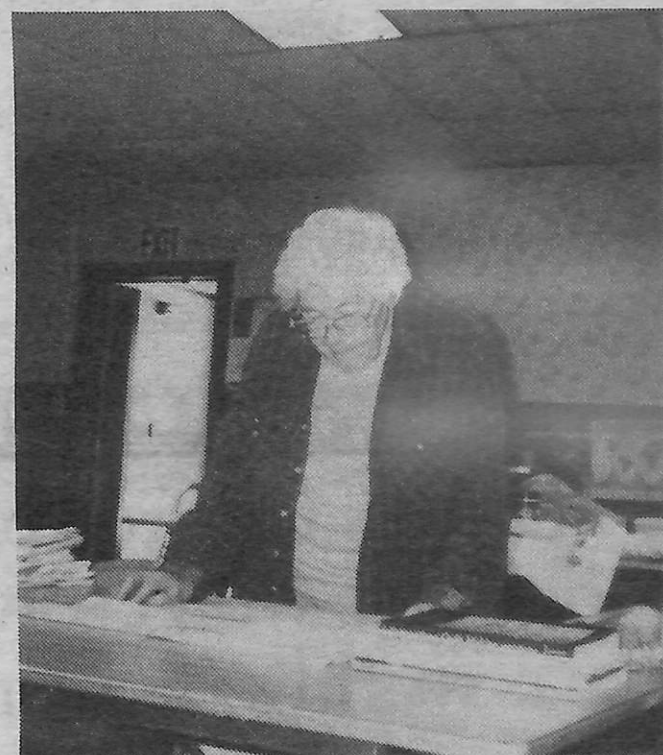
Size of space is 15' x 18' and the cost is only \$15. Food and drinks will be available on the premises.

For further information, call Betsy Ciempa at 786-5160.

*All the local news with us,
each and every week...*



CONNIE HAYNES and SUSAN STRYCHARZ (above) and NAIDA KING (below) at a recently held quilting social at Feeding Hills Congregational Church. The next quilting social at the church will take place this Saturday, March 21st, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



CUT UPS



Full Service Salon • EVERYDAY IS SENIOR DAY!



Welcome
Jayne Talbot to
our staff. Jayne was
the former owner of
Obsession Hair Design
in Feeding Hills.
Jayne welcomes clients
both old and new.

**Haircuts
\$12.00**

W/Shampoo
W/Jayne Only
(Exp. 4/30/98)

Tuesday is Men's Night • Cuts are just \$10.00



Prime lease spot
available for Nail Technician...
Call today!

Make Your Appointment Today! • Walk-Ins Welcome!
515 College Highway (Next to Village Pizza), Southwick, MA
(413) 569-0989



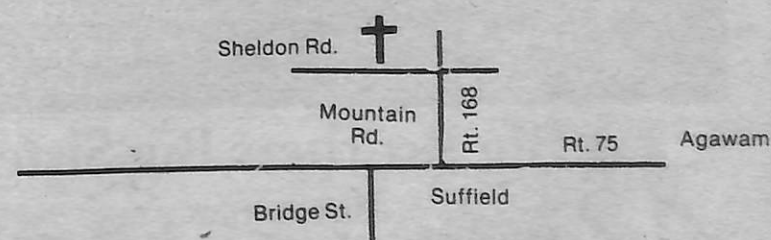
Church
of the

APOSTLES

A Foursquare Gospel Church

A Place Where Friends Have Yet To Meet.

- Sunday Service At 9:30.
- "Promise Keepers" Men's Breakfast On Alternate Saturdays.
- We Believe What The Apostles Of Jesus Did. We Don't Add, Nor Do We Take Away.



Reverend Peter Monahan
(860) 668-4444 Or (413) 786-8735

Church News - continued...

At Valley Community Church...



"WHO'S THAT TAKING OUR PICTURE???" Jack Devine's "older" brother, Robert Devine, and sister-in-law, Susan, at the March 14th chicken supper at Valley Community Church. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



"CHEFS" JEFF HILL AND DON MANLEY at Valley Community Church's chicken supper. (See related photo on Page 1.) Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

ALAN L. FERRIGNO

Attorney at Law
546 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
(413) 786-9454

- Personal Injury/Auto Accidents
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Over 20 years professional experience

"Church News" is just one of the reasons why you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

HOME SHOW '98

It's the Greatest Home Show in New England!

March 24-29, 1998

At the Eastern States Exposition.



"Festival of the Home" Building

Featuring the following Demonstrations and Special Exhibits on your home and how to use it.



Interior Design Showcase - Featuring modern rooms prepared by regional furniture dealers.

Home Show Kitchen - Featuring guest chefs from the finest restaurants in Massachusetts and celebrity chefs.

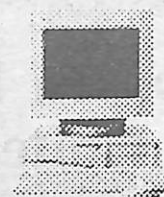
Demonstration Stage - Featuring crafts demonstrations from Old Sturbridge Village and on the weekend, "That Old Thing?", your opportunity to learn about antiques & collectibles and have a favorite piece appraised free!

Our Salute to Vocational Schools - Featuring on-going demonstrations and examples of their latest projects.

Children's Study Home Art Exhibition - From the students on home related topics.

"Great Furniture Giveaway" - Win up to \$15,000 worth of furniture. Benefits the Children's Miracle Network. Sponsored by Kavanagh Furniture, 94.7 WMAS and WWLP TV 22.

Home Expo 2000 - the Home Show's annual High Tech Festival of home computer and communications technology, just for you! Sponsored in part by Online Computers, Agawam.



"Rooms to Come Home To" - Better Living Center
 Gracious living and state of the art technology become one in this exhibit highlighting the kitchen, dining area, great room and adjacent outdoor living space.

Presented by: Kitchens by Curio
Janet Lyons Interiors
St. Clair Landscaping

SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR SENIORS
NOW THREE DAYS!

Seniors aged 60 and over admitted for \$4.00, \$3.00 with discount coupon below on Tuesday through Thursday, March 24-26 only!



DISCOUNT COUPON
MARCH 24-29, 1998

Sponsored by
 The Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts

SHOW HOURS

Tues.-Wed. March 24-25	4 pm-9 pm
Thurs. March 26	2 pm-9 pm
Fri. March 27	1 pm-10 pm
Sat. March 28	10 am-10 pm
Sun. March 29	11 am-6 pm

For information call: (413) 737-0131
 Eastern States Exposition Grounds
 West Springfield, MA

SAVE \$1⁰⁰

Admission \$7.00 • With this coupon \$6.00
 Good any day • One coupon per person

AAN

Church News - continued...**Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational**

This Sunday, March 22nd, is the fourth Sunday in Lent. The Service of Worship continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be "Welcome Home," taken from Text: 2 Corinthians 5:18. The Children's Message will be "Smile!"

This is also "Bring A Friend Sunday." All children in church school are invited to bring a friend to their church school classes.

Reminder: grades 7-12 meet at 9:00 a.m., and grades kindergarten through 6 meet at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Fuller's confirmation class will worship at the First Baptist Church of Agawam this Sunday as part of their visitations to other congregations.

The Adult Education Class meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room. The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring these classes.

All are welcome to attend.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is napkins.

Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

"A Way Through Lent," a joint Lenten Adult Education Series with the First Baptist Church of Agawam, continues.

The next session is on Sunday, March 22nd, at 7:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church. The final two sessions, March 29th and April 5th, will be held at the First Baptist Church of Agawam.

The series will be led by Rev. Fuller, Rev. Barnes, and Dan Pender, Youth/Christian Education Director. For more information concerning the series, call the church office.

Mark your calendars today! The April One-Day Vacation Bible Camp, "The Easter Story Lives," is Wednesday, April 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Ages two to 6th grade are welcome to attend. Registration forms are available in the Church Office.

The Catering Committee is sponsoring a Baked Chicken Breast Dinner on Saturday, April 4th, at 5:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars today!

The Easter Sunday Services Schedule is as follows: Sunrise at 6:00 a.m. (at the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street), 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

Corned Beef Dinner At United Methodist

The Agawam United Methodist Church will host a Corned Beef Dinner on Saturday, March 21st, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The cost is \$6 for seniors, \$3 for children 12 years of age and under, and \$7 for all others.

For a reserved seat, call K&P, 786-3261.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

Lenten Observances Continue At Valley Community Church

The season of Lent is fully under way at Valley Community Church. This Sunday, Pastor Steve Dennehy will take his message from the gospel of Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. He will enlighten both our hearts and our minds with the Parable of the Lost Son. We warmly invite everyone to join us for worship at 9:30 a.m.

Children's Church begins at 10:00 a.m. in Dunn Hall. Our children will also be taught the Parable of the Lost Son, but they will hear it in a way that they can understand and be encouraged to apply the meaning of this parable to their own lives.

Friends and visitors alike will spend time together during the Coffee and Fellowship time at 10:30 a.m. This casual time give friends, both old and new, a chance to just enjoy each other's company.

Church School begins sharply at 11:00 a.m. Classes are available for all ages. The adult class, led by Pastor Steve, has just started a study on the book of Daniel. The class is open to any adult in the church.

Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available throughout the morning.

Voices both young and old can be heard praising God through music as both the Junior and Senior Choir meet for rehearsals on Wednesday evening.

The Junior Choir begins its practice at 6:15 p.m., and the Senior Choir begins at 7:00 p.m.

A "joyful noise" can be heard each Wednesday "high on a hilltop."

Members of Cub Scout Troop 78, Den 3 are to be congratulated as they earned their Webelos activity badge for fitness at the recent Blue and Gold Banquet.

Congratulations to Joseph McDyer, Joe Reutt, Andrew Kretschmar, Andrew Drozdal, Donald Manley, and John Lennon on a job well done!

All in the church family will gather together on Friday evening for the monthly Fellowship Supper. These suppers are a time for us to get together, with no church business, but just to enjoy spending time together. And what a time we have!!!

This month our supper will feature food in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Our cooks for the night will be Sally Dennehy and Betty Kopy, and supper begins at 6:00 p.m.

Valley Community Church is a non-denominational church and warmly welcomes anyone who has, or is seeking to develop, a relationship with Jesus Christ as their Savior.

The church is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads...

Lenten Series Continues At First Baptist Church

The Lenten study series, held jointly with the Agawam Congregational Church, will continue this Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Congregational Church.

"A Way Through Lent" is being led by Rev. Curt Fuller, Rev. Richard Barnes, and Dan Pender. Come share the journey through Lent. Child care is provided.

At the 9:30 a.m. service of worship this Sunday morning, Rev. Richard Barnes' topic will be "Welcome Back!" Scriptural passages from the gospel according to St. Luke will be used.

Assisting Rev. Barnes in the worship leadership will be Janice Lock. Greeters for the morning are Bill Thorpe and Nancy & Stanley Edwards.

After a brief social time in Davis Hall following worship, the newly-renewed "Nuts & Bolts" class, led by Pastor Barnes and dealing with Baptist beliefs and practices, will meet.

Classes are available as well for children of all ages. Nursery care is provided.

On our calendar this week:

Monday, March 23rd: 7:30 p.m., Word Search bible study.

Tuesday, March 24th: 10:00 a.m., Searchlights bible study (at the home of Virginia Catchepaugh); 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 4:30 p.m., Our people serve at Loaves & Fishes (meals for the homeless); 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

Wednesday, March 25th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

Thursday, March 26th: 10:00 a.m., Bell ringers rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

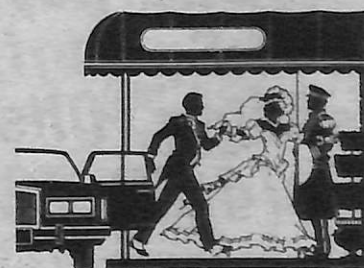
Friday, March 27th: 7:00 p.m., Ice Cream Social - Bodurtha Hall, sponsored by the Caring Connection. Join the group for an evening of fun, fellowship, and calories! Information about new adoptions will be available. Contact Sharon, (860) 668-0450, or Lorie, 786-8140.

Coming up: MOTIVE, MEANS AND OPPORTUNITY FAIR - Sunday, March 29th. (More details next week.)

Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon.

Springfield Turnverein

176 Garden Street
Feeding Hills
786-0924



Catering To:
Weddings
Banquets
Parties
And
Receptions

Two Rooms Available With Seating Up To 250 People

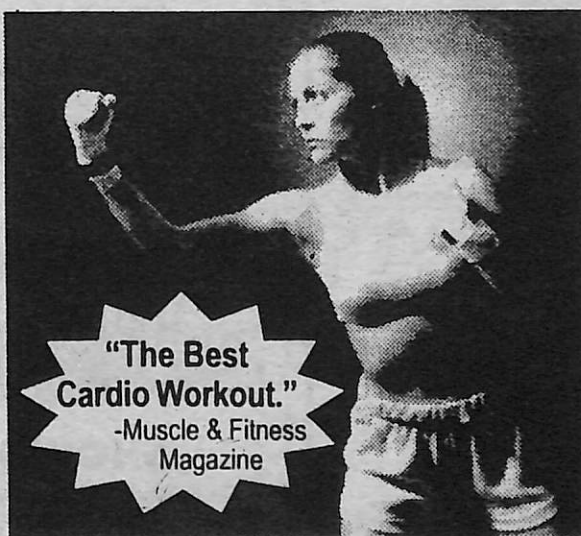
BEAT YOUR AEROBICS CLASS**KardioKickbox**

KARDIO KICKBOX is high energy, explosive, exciting & motivating; it's the non-contact full-body workout with the kicks of martial arts & the punches from boxing.

KARDIO KICKBOX will give you the results you've always wanted, while also learning basic self defense skills. From shoulders to calves you will become lean & strong. You'll tighten, tone & firm your body while burning more fat than any other workout, increasing your self-confidence & reducing your stress level.

KARDIO KICKBOX is for everyone - from those who want to get in shape to those looking for the ultimate workout.

FREE INTRODUCTORY CLASS TO ALL WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY - LIMITED TIME ONLY -



"The Best Cardio Workout."
-Muscle & Fitness Magazine

More Fun...Incredible Results!

Call **786-4158** today
for schedule and location nearest you



Spotlight On Business

E.B's Restaurant To Sponsor Easter Seal's "Scavenger Hunt"

E.B's Restaurant, Agawam, will sponsor the First Annual Scavenger Hunt to benefit Easter Seals on Saturday, March 28th. This unique contest will feature awards for best team uniform and original team name and prizes for the first team who returns with the most items.

Registration will be at 11:00 a.m. at E.B's Restaurant, 385 Walnut Street Ext., at which time teams will receive their clue books. The \$60 registration fee includes the Scavenger Hunt and party afterward at Shaker Farms Country Club, Westfield. Music will be provided by DJ Sound Productions.

Teams of four, consisting of family, friends, and co-workers, have from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. to figure out, find, or listen to clues, designed by area cluemaster Jon Lund, to places throughout the Pioneer Valley.

Raffle prizes donated to date include overnight stays at the Springfield Marriott and the Inn at Northampton, a plane ride from Charis Air, Westfield, a package from Riverside—The Great Escape, and gift certificates from area restaurants.

Easter Seal services include home health care; physical, speech, and occupational therapy, adaptive swim programs, camp for children and young adults, equipment loan, and technology for independence.

Teams may register in advance at E.B's Walnut Street Extension location (789-3525), or at the Easter Seal Office, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 32D, West Springfield.

Westfield Bank Supports The United Way...



LINDA SAMOLEWICZ (left), Assistant Vice President and Loan Officer with the Westfield Bank Mortgage Department, is shown as she presents a check for \$14,000 to Ty Joubert, President of the United Way. The check represents Westfield Bank's contribution to the United Way of Pioneer Valley's drive for 1998 funding.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime!!!

Dr. Michael Haynes Podiatrist

**Physician & Surgeon - Podiatry - D.P.M.
Complete Foot Care**

- Geriatric Nail Care
- Heel Pain
- Warts
- Calluses
- Ingrown Toenails
- Diabetic Foot Care
- We Accept Most Insurance Including Medicare And Secure Horizons
- Office Hours By Appointment

Located At Feeding Hills Center
24 Southwick, Feeding Hills

786-7522



Spotlight On Business - continued...



MARTIAL ART INSTRUCTOR Ray Shugart, owner of Hwang's School of TaeKwon-Do in Agawam, is now conducting KARDIO KICKBOX classes (pictured above and below) at the school several times a week. For further information, call 786-4158 or visit Hwang's at 680 Springfield Street (opposite the Agawam Police Station).



Women's Kickboxing Classes Are A "Hit" In Agawam

The biggest trend in women's fitness is now "hitting" Agawam.

KARDIO KICKBOX is the non-contact kickboxing workout with the kicks of martial arts and the punches of boxing. In less than two weeks, classes have already grown to near-capacity due to the appeal of the unique training.

Unlike many workouts, KARDIO KICKBOX is movement with a purpose. It's unique kicking and punching drills, exercise and training methods not only get you in a fighter's condition, it strengthens mental focus while building self-defense drills and confidence.

Fighters are considered among the best all-around conditioned athletes in the world. This is a fighter's workout without the fight (contact).

Many athletes and entertainers such as boxer Sugar Ray Leonard, singer Paula Abdul, basketball star Shaquille O'Neil, and "Ms. Olympia" Cory Everson now train in fitness kickboxing. It's even featured weekly on ESPN2, and was recently featured on *Entertainment Tonight* and in *People* magazine.

Local martial art instructor Ray Shugart is a certified instructor in KARDIO KICKBOX and is now holding classes in Agawam several times a week. He is a six-time national team manager for the United States; has over 29 years' experience in martial arts; and is, himself, a former boxer.

Shugart is also the owner of one of the largest martial art schools in Western Massachusetts. He has been trained by Steve Doss, former top 10 World Rated kickboxer and the founder of the KARDIO KICKBOX program in Austin, Texas.

Classes are held both mornings and evenings at Hwang's School of TaeKwon-Do in Agawam. A free trial class is offered to all women in the community.

For further information, call 786-4158 or stop by Hwang's at 680 Springfield Street (opposite the Agawam Police Station).

Teleflora Awards Longmeadow Flowers

Longmeadow Flowers, Inc. has been named one of Teleflora's Top 500 Sending Florists, an honor conferred upon florists who have transmitted a record number of floral wire orders throughout the year.

The award is given in recognition of the florist's contribution to Teleflora, the world's largest floral wire service, known for its innovative keepsake gifts, leadership role in floral technology, and far-reaching education programs.

Longmeadow Flowers, Inc. has been a member of the community for 40 years and is located at the following locations: 57 Allen Street, Springfield; 815 Williams Street, Longmeadow; and 1325 Springfield St., Feeding Hills.

To send flowers anywhere in the world, you may call Longmeadow Flowers, Inc. at 739-6941.

Richard W. Gallerani, OD
Julianne Rapalus Gallerani, OD

Agawam Eye Associates

Complete Family Eye Care



- Contact Lenses
- Pediatric and Geriatric Eye Care
- Full-service Dispensary with Frames Available
- Accepting Health New England, HMOBlue, Medicare and most other insurances

656 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

789-2106

Family Dentistry

Gentle, Caring Dentistry At An Affordable Price

Michael J. Calabrese
D.M.D., M.S.



- Cleaning/Filling
- Crown and Bridge
- Root Canal Treatment
- Cosmetics/Aesthetics
- Dentures
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Evening And Saturday Appointments Available

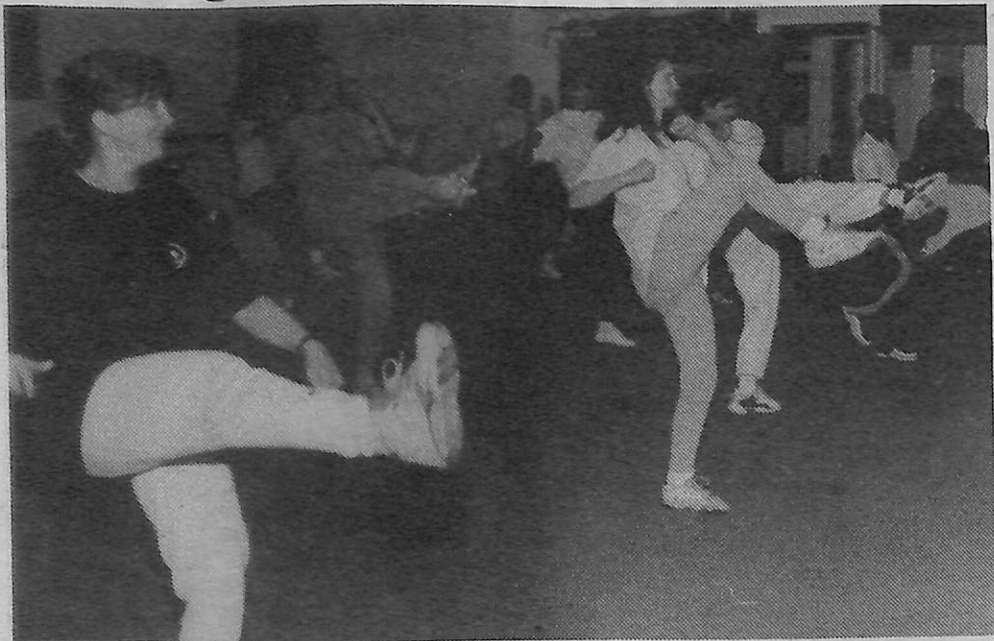
24-Hour Answering Service

850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

786-0555

Spotlight On Business - continued...

Getting A 'Kick' Out Of Exercise!



THE LATEST TREND in women's fitness is KARDIO KICKBOX (above), which is currently being offered at Hwang's School of TaeKwon-Do at 680 Springfield Street.

The PIONEER GROUP To Hold Free Workshop On April 11th

The offices of **The PIONEER GROUP** is sponsoring a free public service workshop entitled "Buying a Home ... What the Banks Don't Tell You."

It will be held Saturday morning, April 11th, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the West Springfield Professional Center, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 21, in West Springfield.

Topics to be discussed include the various government federal loan programs that are currently available to first-time and move-up buyers; understanding points and closing costs, and how to minimize these fees; understanding seller contributions; the difference between a bank and a mortgage company, and which one offers the better value; and much more.

The information contained in this 90-minute seminar may save today's first-time and move-up buyers thousands of dollars.

Speakers at the workshop will include Donald Thompson, a Principal of **The PIONEER GROUP**, and Raymond Rose, a retired mortgage banker.

The workshop is free of charge and reservations are suggested. Their last seminar was filled to capacity. For more information, please listen to the recorded info message at 846-0981, and for reservations, please dial 731-6800.

Those that attend the workshop will receive a free copy of their credit report along with an application for a free mortgage pre-approval.

EASTER PLANT SALE



Locally grown Easter plants will be available April 4th, 1998 at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills or delivered by your participating Boy Scout. All Flowers will be delivered with SEMI-OPEN BUDS and in a decorative pot cover.

CHOOSE FROM:

Lilies
Tulips,
Daffodils and
Hyacinths

in assorted sizes

**Sacred Heart Church
Boy Scout Troop 75**

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW

Call Hugh McBride at
786-6179 or

Sharon Robichaud at
789-2886 or place your order with
a Boy Scout at the Parish Center
SUNDAY, MARCH 15th
after the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses

ALSO

SUNDAY, APRIL 5th
in the Church Parking Lot
after the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses

SUPPORT
YOUR
TROOP!

Proceeds help
purchase
equipment, send
scouts to camp and
fund Scouting
activities

Remember, our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

There's GREAT INTEREST in Westbank's New IRA Certificates

3 Year - 5 Year - \$1,000 Min.

6.17%

Annual Percentage Yield*

6.00%

Interest Rate

1 1/2 Year - 3 Year - \$1,000 Min.

6.01%

Annual Percentage Yield*

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Interest Rate

1 Year - \$1,000 Minimum

5.38%

Annual Percentage Yield*

5.25%

Interest Rate

Take Advantage of New IRA Tax Saving Choices

- Traditional IRAs
- Roth IRAs
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For additional information and a FREE BROCHURE call Marcia Orlandi at 747-1431 or stop at any of our eleven convenient offices

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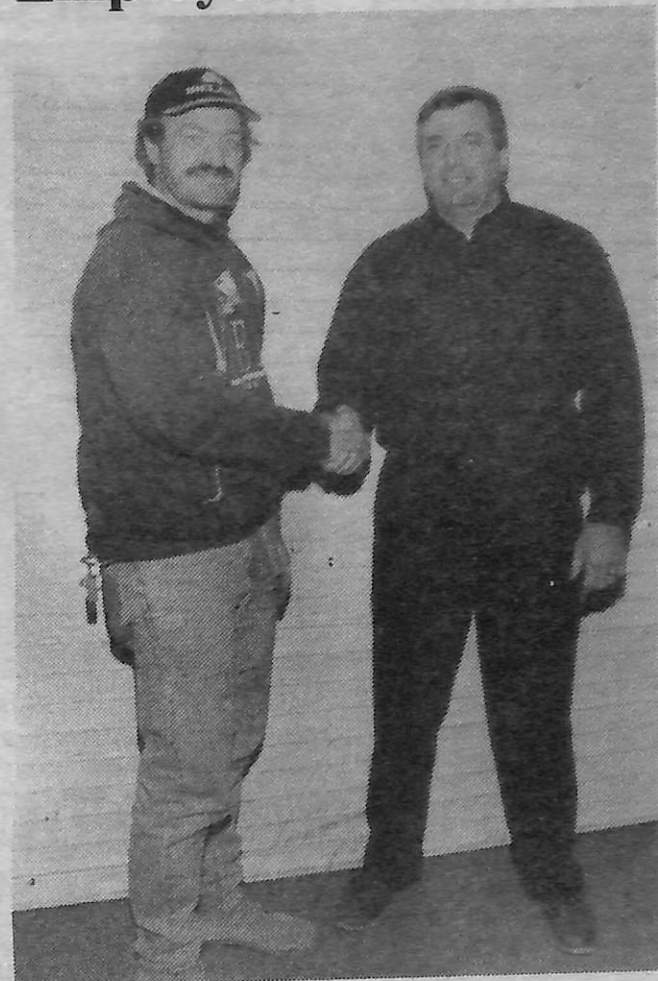
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Riverside Park Awards Maintenance Employees



RICK NEIS, Director of Maintenance at Riverside Amusement Park, congratulates Harold Molin (left), who received a "Performance Award" for February; Alan D'Amours (center), "Maintenance Person of the Month" for February; and Brian LaBrecque (right), "Maintenance Person of the Month" for January. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Legal Memo

by
Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Premises Liability— Fractured Eye Orbit

On or about January 21, 1994, the plaintiff and her husband were in a Massachusetts retail store. While walking down an aisle of the store, a large item was accidentally pushed by a store employee from a high rack where it had been displayed and stored. The item fell on top of plaintiff, grazing the right side of her face and fracturing the orbital bone of her right eye.

The plaintiff alleged that the store's practice was to permit its store managers to stack and store merchandise vertically in order to increase

profit, creating a hazard to customers. The plaintiff alleged that by inviting customers onto its premises, the store warranted that its premises were reasonably safe and secure such that shoppers should expect that they will not be injured while on the premises.

The plaintiff further alleged that the store was aware of similar prior incidents involving falling merchandise, yet did nothing to improve safety practices, to review and revise employee safety training, to warn customers about hazards of falling objects, or to eliminate altogether the hazard by no longer storing large objects on high shelves.

The defendant denied that its store policies were improper, and denied that the store was unsafe. The defendant fired the employee responsible for the incident following an internal review of the matter, concluding that the employee failed to follow appropriate safety procedures instituted by the defendant.

The plaintiff suffered injury to her right orbit as a result of the incident and some double vision in the right eye. The case settled at mediation prior to trial for \$500,000.00.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.

Alan J. Ferrigno's column, "Legal Memo," is a regular feature of the ADVERTISER NEWS...



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For Your Health



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Personalized Nutrition Is Just A Phone Call Away

Registered dietitian Cathy Devlin offers a nutrition counseling to individual clients who visit her Chicago office and, two days a week, she dispenses the same sound nutrition advice to callers to The American Dietetics Association (ADA)'s Consumer Nutrition Hotline. Devlin says that in both jobs she is helping people develop a personalized nutrition plan that fits their individual needs, health status, and lifestyle.

"On the hotline, I'm able to offer some quick tips or answers to callers' specific nutrition concerns. In my private practice, I work closely with clients and guide them step-by-step so they can attain a more healthful lifestyle," said Devlin.

Her education and experience enable her to handle a variety of consumer concerns from diabetes control and weight management to specific questions, such as how to include more fiber in one's eating plan.

Recently, a hotline caller told Devlin that she did not think she was getting enough nutrients because, as a mother of three, she was often too busy to sit down for "normal" meals and was tired all the time. She wanted to know if she should take vitamin supplements.

Devlin explained that foods can provide necessary vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients. She recommended that the caller find time in the morning to sit down with the kids for breakfast. "Fruit and cereal with milk will replenish her body after a night-long fast and help her sustain physical and mental activities until lunch time," she said. Additionally, Devlin told the caller to keep some fruits and low-fat, high-fiber snacks handy so she could nibble on them at work.

The busy mother of three is just one of hundreds of consumers who call ADA's Consumer Nutrition Hotline each week.

The hotline offers multiple options for finding objective and practical nutrition information. Callers to 900/CALL-AN-RD or 900/225-5267 (9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Central Time, weekdays), like the busy mother, get direct access to registered dietitians who will answer specific food and nutrition questions.

By calling 800-366-1655 (9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Central Time, weekdays), consumers can listen to food and nutrition messages recorded by registered dietitians in both English and Spanish, or they can receive a referral to a local RD for individual or group nutrition counseling.

ADA encourages consumers to seek the nutrition expertise of registered dietitians during National Nutrition Month® (March). "Anytime is an excellent time to schedule a 'nutrition check-up' with a registered dietitian," Devlin adds. "Dietitians can show you ways to make good nutrition easy and eating enjoyable."

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association.



**Chiropractic
Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson**
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Getting Ready For Golf...

It's that time of year again; people start coming into the office for adjustments and "tune-ups" that we haven't seen for months.

What's going on? Do they miss me? Is the vernal equinox causing people to want to balance their bodies to correlate with the balance of day and night?

I think not! It's GOLF SEASON! People are coming out of the woodwork to make sure their bodies are functioning perfectly in order to shoot the perfect game. They don't want anything to impede their score ... no stiffness, no joints or vertebrae stuck — they want a perfectly balanced spine.

My husband never gets adjusted as much as he does prior to the first golf game of the year. Does he take care of himself the rest of the year? Not as much as during this season.

But, to be fair to my husband and all the other golfers, keeping your spine functioning at 100 percent helps the body maintain optimum ability to perform at 100 percent. They know this.

Each and every bone that makes up the spine (24 in all) should be moving in all the different directions (forward, backward, side to side, rotating). If a few of the segments in the neck, midback, or low back are "stuck" or not moving properly, then motion is limited.

Perhaps you're not able to extend the club as far back as necessary to get the correct swing. If the neck cannot turn all the way, your ability to perform a swing is significantly reduced.

The whole focus of chiropractic is to restore proper motion of the spine. Of course, for some of you, chiropractic exists to maintain the golf game!

As a chiropractor, though, I can restore proper motion and help maintain a balanced spine, but I cannot guarantee a reduction in your golf score — that's up to you!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Chiropractic Care For Seniors...

Question: What benefits does chiropractic offer to senior citizens? Does Medicare cover chiropractic services?

Answer: Chiropractic offers several benefits to seniors. In our attempt to stay looking young by eliminating the surface signs of age, we forget an important concern. The need to improve the QUALITY of life.

Many senior patients that enter my office are taking a variety of drugs, including pain killers, blood pressure pills, anti-depressants, sedatives, etc. These medications are masking symptoms. Many are producing dangerous side effects. We are not getting at the heart of the problem.

Chiropractic is opposed to the rampant use of these medications which dull the senses and produce detrimental side effects. The chiropractor uses spinal adjustments, nutrition, exercises, and other natural methods of restoring health.

The older person must stay alert and remain productive. Nothing is more rewarding than helping an older person regain greater range of motion and freedom of movement, and reducing the need for medications.

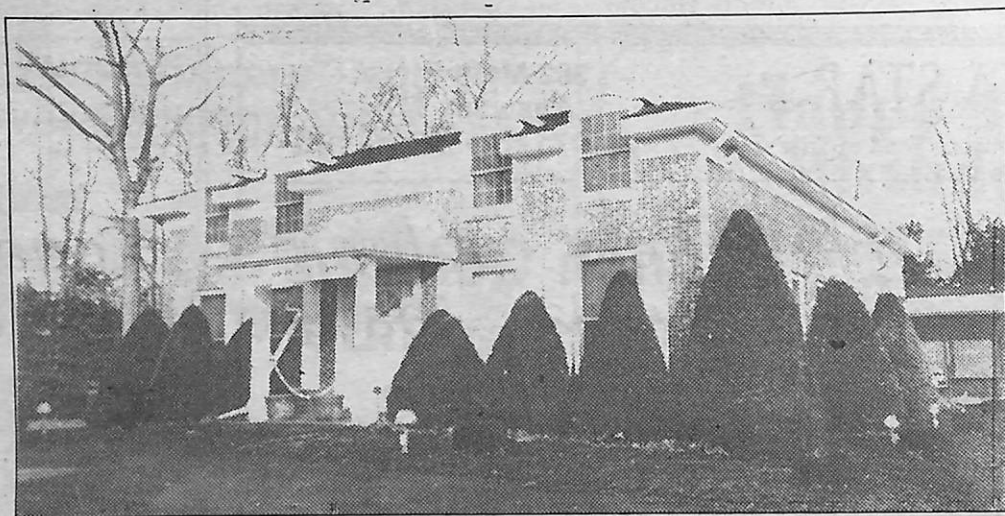
Medicare has paid for chiropractic for decades. Our office submits claims electronically for rapid processing. Medicare covers at least 12 and possibly as many as 36 treatments per year based on your condition.

As a growing number of people enter the senior citizen category, we must include regular chiropractic care to insure them a higher level of health.

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For Your Health - continued...

It's Time To Stretch Out!

by Carmela Kirk, RN
Fitness Consultant, Fitness First

Stretching is vitally important and many people don't realize why. Whether or not you work out, you should take a few minutes in the morning and/or prior to working out for a few minutes of stretching.

Stretching does much more than increase flexibility. When you stretch, you increase body awareness, relaxation, and overall fitness. Stretching reduces injury, muscle soreness, and tension. Stretching actually releases, or stimulates the release of chemicals which lubricate important tissues in the body, which is the key to a smooth, fluid motion of the body.

Many people confuse stretching as a warm-up. Stretching can be included in the latter part of a warm-up; however, do not attempt to stretch a muscle that is not warm. This can cause injury and is not advised.

Warming up means just that — increasing body temperature. Usually this is done through some kind of aerobic exercise or repetitive activity at lower intensity.

When stretching, it is important to consider isolation. Focus on the one muscle you are stretching. This gives you less resistance and greater control of the stretch. The leverage used is what gives you the ability to control the intensity of the stretch.

Now, be careful! There are a lot of risky stretches out there. You should absolutely never feel pain with a stretch. If you are uncertain about exactly how to stretch, you should seek professional help from a fitness consultant, doctor, or athletic trainer.

There is much controversy about how long a stretch lasts. Fifteen to 60 seconds is the most common range. My experience has been the longer you hold the stretch, the more benefit you receive.

Breathing is another crucial aspect of stretching. Breathing helps to mechanically remove lactic acid and other by-products of exercise out of the muscle. Again, the more you stretch your muscles prior to your daily routine or exercise, the better condition your body will be in.

Stretching is an important part of your healthy lifestyle. I strongly recommend putting a little thought in this area to enjoy a longer, painless, enjoyable, and healthy lifestyle.



Geissler's Supermarket Helping Cancer Society With Daffodil Sale

Your support of the American Cancer Society does make a difference. It makes a difference in cancer research, looking for new treatment and cures.

It makes a difference to patients and their families: offering support, information, supplies, and transportation. It makes a difference in education: helping young people choose a healthy lifestyle that will reduce their risk of cancer.

It makes a difference because, of every dollar contributed, 78.6 percent is invested **directly** into programs. The network of local volunteers keeps costs low. They do make a difference.

You, too, can make a difference! On March 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th, daffodil bunches will be sold at Geissler's in Agawam. Volunteers from town will be there to assist you. Stop by and buy a bunch for \$5. Daffodil, the flower of hope, will give that **hope** to the people afflicted with cancer.

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Agawam Friendly's Raises Over \$1,443 For Easter Seals Services

Agawam residents contributed \$1,443 to Friendly's 17th Annual "Cones For Kids" Campaign. The money will help fund Easter Seal services that help children and adults with disabilities expand their independence.

This was a record year for the "Cones For Kids" Campaign. Friendly's Restaurants raised \$314,000 in Massachusetts and \$1.4 million nationwide. "This record-breaking year was achieved through our crews' and guests' commitment and dedication to Easter Seals," said Dennis Roberts, Friendly's Senior Vice President for Restaurant Operations.

Friendly's guests received five children's Valentine's Day Cards for a \$1 donation to Easter Seals. These cards featured the popular cartoon characters, Alvin and the Chipmunks, and are redeemable for free Friendly's Kid Cones. For a \$2 donation to Easter Seals, guests received a Coupon Book with money-saving coupons on some Friendly's favorites and a coupon valid for a free 10 x 13 inch color portrait from Photography by JC Penney. The Coupon Book has a value of over \$50.

During the 17 years the Friendly Ice Cream Corporation and Easter Seals have worked as partners, Friendly's has raised over \$17 million to support Easter Seal services for children and adults with disabilities.

JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice before covering your event. Call Jack at 789-0053.

Christopher Orion



Born February 6, 1998
9lbs. 10 oz.

Tami Nelson, D.C.
Hampden County Chiropractic
850 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
786-4820

For Your Health - continued...

Noble Hospital Offers Support Programs In Many Areas

SUPPORT GROUPS

Diabetes Support Group: Tuesdays, March 24th and April 28th, 1:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from diabetes and their support persons.

On March 24th, Dr. Kelly D. Burek will speak about foot care and the diabetes patient. On April 28th, Linda Lissack, Paralegal Advocate at Western Mass Legal Services, will speak about changes in Medicare.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesdays, April 1st, April 15th, and April 29th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their support persons.

Topics: "Rehabilitation after a stroke" (April 1st); "Prevention of future strokes" (April 15th); and "Stroke in different areas of the brain; right vs. left" (April 29th).

Crohn's and Colitis: Tuesday, April 21st, 7:00 p.m. In Conference Room A.

Free of charge and open to all suffering from Crohn's or Colitis and their support persons. Heidi Domingues Kolek, MD, will entertain questions and answers for the IBD patient.

COURSES/PROGRAMS:

Cosmetic/Plastic Surgery: Tuesday, March 31st, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Noble Hospital.

Gary E. Russolillo, MD, will present a lecture about Body Contouring Surgeries, Lip Enhancements, Facial Surgeries, and Skin Care Procedures.

The presentation will be followed by a complimentary personal consultation. Pre-registration is required.

For free registration, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

CPR Course: Two-part course — Wednesdays, April 15th and 22nd, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. In the Education Department/Ground Floor of Noble Hospital.

This course provides American Heart Association Adult, Child, and Infant certification. Cost of the course is \$45.

To register or obtain more information, call the Noble Hospital Education Department at (413) 568-2811, ext. 5914.

Smoking Cessation - "Forgetting Cigarettes: Mondays, April 6th and 13th, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. In Conference Room A of Noble Hospital.

This two-part program utilizes hypnosis to eliminate your desires for smoking and allow you to forget cigarettes forever. Presented by Joe Barako, R.N. and Certified Hypnotherapist.

The registration fee is \$40 and is paid the evening of the first session. Seating is limited, and pre-registration is required.

To pre-register or for more information, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

14th Annual Run For A Noble Cause (5-K Road Race and Kid's Race): Saturday, April 25th, 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$8 in advance, and \$10 on the day of the race. The Kid's Race is free.

Awards will be given for all divisions. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

Children's Olympics: Saturday, May 2nd, 8:30 a.m. At Billy Bullens Field. Sponsored by Noble Hospital and the YMCA of Greater Springfield.

Registration is limited to 250. The registration fee is \$6 for one child, \$8 for two children, \$10 for three children, and \$12 for four or more children in the same family.

Children five through 12 years of age will compete in "Olympic Events," which include hurdles, softball throw, 50-yard dash, sack race, and standing broad jump. Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers (boys and girls) in each age division.

Pre-registration is required prior to April 22nd. Call Noble Hospital's Health Beat, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or more information.

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Managing YOUR STRESS

by Dr. Stephen Sobel
M.S., S.M.C.



A Special Sharing And A Tribute To Saul D. Sobel (My Loving Father)

My dad passed away on April 6, 1991. He is absolutely with me in many ways each and every moment. He shared with me the following story which he wrote upon awakening at 4:00 a.m. on a morning in March of 1991.

He said he wrote it for me and suggested that it would provide my seminar participants and interested parties with a great understanding of themselves and of coping with life.

I hope you read it many times to gain the meaning that most positively influences you.

The Story Of A Mountain

by Saul D. Sobel as told to Steve Sobel

Once upon a time, or so it was told, there came on DAY ONE a huge, grey-copper mountain set on black basal rock. On DAY TWO the trees were set upon this mountain. On DAY THREE the animals were added to the fertile landscape. On DAY FOUR the rivers washed over this fertile scene, causing everything to grow and be nourished.

On DAY FIVE the grasses were sprouting in all directions. On DAY SIX the rainbow of colored flowers burst forth and peppered the scene. And on DAY SEVEN the rains came, not just a rain shower, but an endless, relentless torrent, a deluge, and downpour that soon carved its way into the mountain, washing away tree and shrub and boulder, soil, and grass alike.

The rivers gulped and swelled. Even the grass was covered over. As the river waters rose higher and higher in their relentless struggle, they carved deeper into the mountain. They pushed rock, soil, animal, and mineral forward and even sandwiched them together until a sturdy sky-high wall was created.

Six-Week Arthritis Self-Help Course Available At Baystate Medical Center

Baystate Medical Center's Senior Class will offer a six-week Arthritis Self-Help Course, which teaches the daily responsibilities of arthritis care, beginning March 25th for patients currently under a doctor's care for arthritis.

Among the topics to be discussed throughout the six-week course include: arthritis/joint anatomy, self-help principals, joint protection/energy conservation, pain control, exercise, relaxation, medications, dealing with depression,

the doctor-patient relationship, nutrition, and unproven remedies.

The cost for the course is \$25 and participants will receive a book describing the course objectives and methods used.

The course will be held on Wednesdays, March 25th through April 29th from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at Baystate Medical Center's South Campus, 140 High Street, B level. To register, call The Professionals at (413) 784-2255 or 1-800-377-HEALTH.

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Birthday
On March 22nd
Peter,
You Made It!



Love,
Denise, Matthew and Patrick

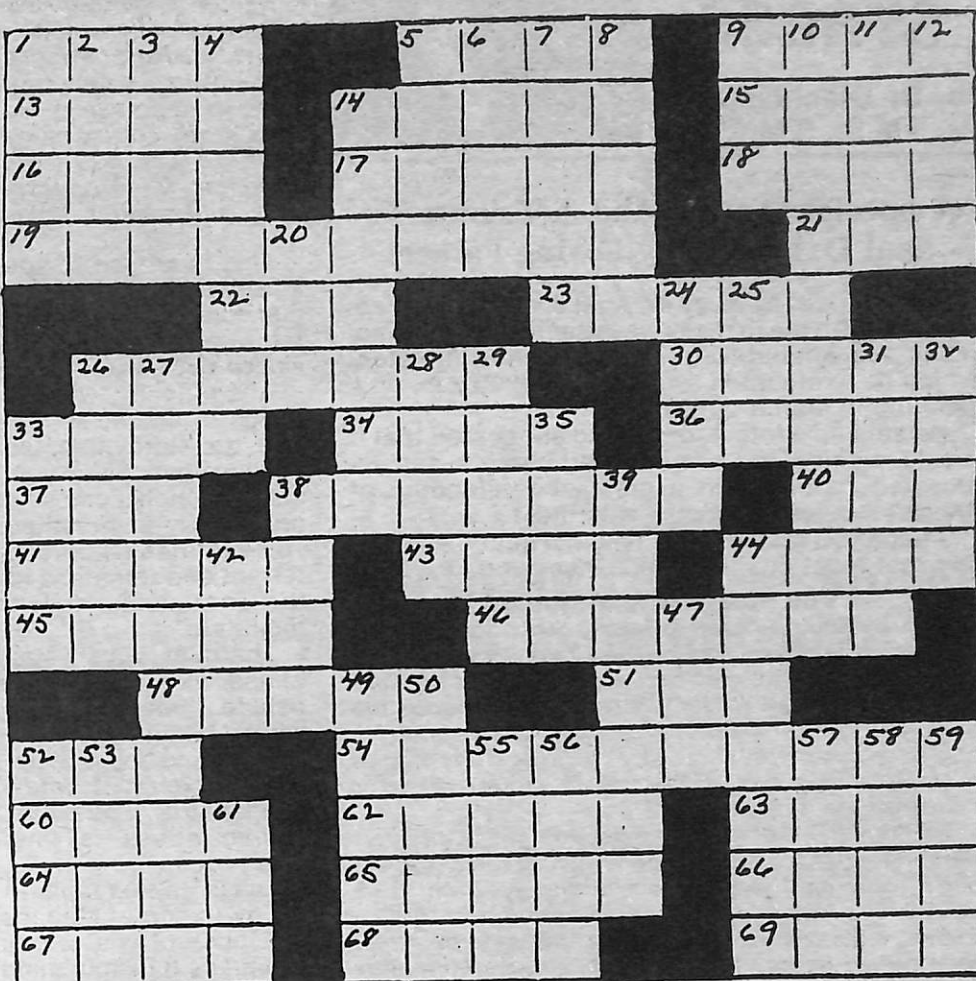


Arts

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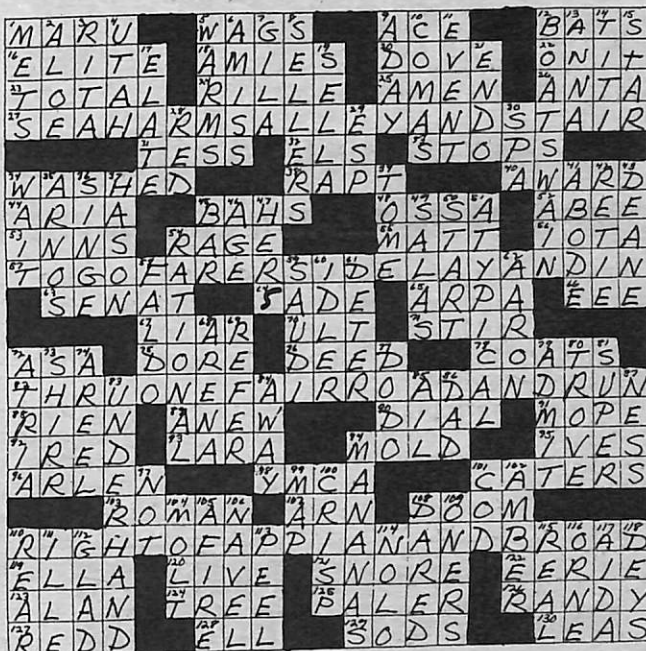
- 1 Toward the mouth
 - 5 Flower bed intruder
 - 9 Beat-up car (slang)
 - 13 Etna blast
 - 14 Give birth to a calf
 - 15 Indian of Peru
 - 16 Soupy Sales's deserts
 - 17 Comedian Ole
 - 18 Unbleached shade
 - 19 Sorcerers
 - 21 Relative for short
 - 22 IRA payoff
 - 23 One-time treaty group
 - 26 Puts in the middle
 - 30 Usher's quest
 - 33 Actress Shelley
 - 34 Otary
 - 36 "—iliac"
 - 37 Business abbr.
 - 38 Most trite
 - 40 "Not him but —"
 - 41 Take as one's own
 - 43 Pass pasteboards
 - 44 Salad veg.
 - 45 Drawer invader often
 - 46 Black eyes
 - 48 Dials up
 - 51 Type of school
 - 52 Actress Rehan
 - 54 Obstructed
 - 60 Venetian magistrate
 - 62 Hangman's loop
 - 63 Despicable
 - 64 Composer Charles
 - 65 Bobbed
 - 66 Sister of Osiris
 - 67 Try out
 - 68 Singe
 - 69 Rowboat problem
- ## DOWN
- 1 Greek wine flask
 - 2 "Don't — on my parade"
 - 3 With (Fr.)
 - 4 Word for Errol Flynn
 - 5 Disney
 - 6 "Or —"
 - 7 Famous baseball mid-dleman
 - 8 Solid
 - 9 Hasten
 - 10 Trespasser
 - 11 Farm unit
 - 12 Muni or Newman
 - 14 Competitive event
 - 20 Uninvited picnic guest
 - 24 Helper (abbr.)
 - 25 Herbal beverage
 - 26 Certain abode for short

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



- 27 Lends support
- 28 Peruse
- 29 White, fire, and yard
- 31 Aspens
- 32 Ilk
- 33 Writer O'Flaherty
- 35 Wife of Jacob
- 38 British carbine
- 39 "— down" (lost weight)
- 42 Greek letter
- 44 Torment
- 47 Cornhusker's state
- 49 Wilder and Hackman
- 50 Siesta sound
- 52 Mine entrance
- 53 Bird of peace
- 55 Mrs. Dithers
- 56 Employer
- 57 Go up
- 58 Kazan
- 59 Duty room station often
- 61 East coast time zone

Last Week's Solution...



JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.

Our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We open at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.

New Play Directed By Suffield Director

Lyle Pearsons of Suffield, local co-producer and playwright with The Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills, MA, has lent his directorial skills to a new play, "Cleaning Day," written by Joseph Wright of Shutesbury, MA.

The one-act play was given its premiere opening at the Unitarian-Universalist Society in Springfield earlier this month to acclaim from critics and audience members alike.

Theresa Giera of *The Chicopee Herald* headlined her review "a superb enactment of elderly isolation." She called the play "extremely well-written and a well-acted exploration."

Margo Fineberg of *Bravo* wrote it was "handled with aplomb and affinity," and that the play was "sensitivity brought forth with humor and pathos under the direction of Lyle Pearsons."

The accolades from the media and from the audience members who participated in the after-play discussion came as no surprise to Pearsons, who felt the play would tug at the heartstrings of people who were sensitive to the theme or who directly identified with the controversial and delicate issue of suicide among the elderly.

When actress/singer Vickie Phillips approached Pearsons about directing the show, Pearsons was at first reluctant. Heavily involved with his co-producing duties at The Red Door Theatre, Pearsons commented, "There's really very little time for theatre outside theatre." But, after reading Wright's semi-autobiographical script, Pearsons decided to find the time and work out the logistics of juggling the two theatre responsibilities.

"The script spoke to me perhaps because I see a little of my grandmother's isolation in an elderly complex in Vermont; perhaps from a fear of one day having to deal directly with this dilemma with my own parents or even myself," said Pearsons.

"Cleaning Day" sheds light on the subject of elderly living and one mother's decision to end her life, but not before she seeks help and understanding from her daughter.

"The issues of suicide and assisted suicide in this play were not the main focus for me as the director, though that certainly is the catalyst for the play's conflict," said Pearsons. "I saw a dramatic struggle deeper than that of making a choice."

"There was the necessity of resolving a lifelong mother/daughter conflict; the challenge of tying up the loose ends of one's life — of cleaning up one's mess; the struggle to maintain dignity in the face of an undignified existence. These were the elements of the play that intrigued me," he continued.

Pearsons has directed other thought-provoking and emotionally-charged productions with other area theatre groups, including The Suffield Players' "Gin Game" and the Encore Players' "Equus."

Pearsons' work on larger-scale productions has also been recognized. His direction of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," which he co-authored with George Chartier, won 11 state drama awards, including Best Director for Pearsons.

He is also known for his work with The Suffield Players' "Dracula Trilogy" and with their 1989 production of "Jesus Christ Superstar," which was

SEE PEARSONS - Page 31...

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Help Your Heart Recipes

This recipe is recommended by the American Heart Association to be part of an overall healthful eating plan. Total fat intake should be less than 30 percent of your total calories for a day - not for each food or recipe.

GARLIC CHICKEN FILLETS in Balsamic Vinegar

8 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves (about 4 ounces each), all visible fat removed
 ½ cup all-purpose flour
 2 teaspoons olive oil
 6 to 8 cloves garlic, minced, or 3 to 4 teaspoons bottled minced garlic
 Vegetable oil spray
 1 cup low-sodium chicken broth
 ⅓ cup balsamic vinegar
 Freshly ground pepper to taste
 2 tablespoons water
 1 tablespoon cornstarch

Rinse chicken breasts and pat dry with paper towels. Dredge breasts in flour; shake off excess. Heat a large, heavy, nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add oil and swirl to coat bottom of skillet. When oil is hot, add breasts. Cook on one side 2 to 3 minutes, or until golden.

Add garlic. Spray top of breasts with vegetable oil spray. Turn breasts and continue cooking about 2 to 3 minutes, or until golden. Add broth, balsamic vinegar, and pepper. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook, covered, for 5 to 10 minutes, or until chicken is tender. (The timing depends on the thickness of the chicken breasts.) Remove chicken from skillet. Keep warm.

Pour water into a cup or small bowl. Add cornstarch, stirring until it dissolves.

Add cornstarch mixture to skillet and boil for 1 to 2 minutes, or until thick and smooth. Pour sauce over chicken and serve immediately.

Serves 8.

Nutrient Analysis Per Serving

183 kcal Calories	26 gm Protein
9 gm Carbohydrate	62 mg Cholesterol
65 mg Sodium	4 gm Total Fat
1 gm Saturated Fat	1 gm Polyunsaturated Fat
2 gm Monounsaturated Fat	

American Heart Association Low-Fat, Low-Cholesterol Cookbook, Second Edition,

© 1997. Reprinted with permission from Times Books, a division of Random House, Inc., New York. Visit our web site at: <http://www.americanheart.org>

JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. If Jack is out, please leave a message for him. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.



MEMBERS OF THE YOUNG AT HEART CHORUS from Northampton will be performing at the Agawam Public Library on Friday evening, April 3rd.

Young At Heart Chorus To Perform At Agawam Library On April 3rd

The Young at Heart Chorus from Northampton will present a musical/comedy performance at the Agawam Public Library on Friday, April 3rd, at 7:30 p.m.

The Chorus is a very unique senior citizen group whose members range in age from 65 to 90. They have performed for many organizations, groups, and business organizations over the past 15 years.

Their voices, comedy, and costumes have

delighted countless audiences. The return performance in Agawam was overwhelmingly requested by our "First Friday" audiences.

The group was chosen to appear at Holland's Senior Songfest in Amsterdam last July. Twenty-five of the members went to display their many talents. One reviewer noted that "they're hip, they're hot, and they're happening" (*Boston Globe*).

The program is being sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

PEARSONS - from Page 30...

awarded The Moss Hart Award for Best Community Theatre Production by The New England Theatre Conference.

"I enjoy the spectacle and staging of large-cast productions," said Pearsons. "It's something that my partner, Margie Secora, and I do on a regular basis with all the young people who attend our theatre camp productions at The Red Door Theatre."

"But, every once in a while, it's nice to slow down, dig deeper, and focus in finer on the more intimate details of a smaller-scale show such as 'Cleaning Day.' Working with the talents of Vickie Phillips and Cheryl LaRiviere is also a joy for a director," added Pearsons.

"There is already so much there to work with that you can concentrate on the finer points of the

characters or delve deeper into the theme or conflict of the play. Life is also easy when you have such a script as this one, written with the eye of an artist who has seen the suffering and the heart of a poet who has felt the pain."

Premiere Productions hopes to continue presenting new and untested scripts in the future, but for now is concentrating on bringing "Cleaning Day" to a wider audience by adding two more performances on Saturday, March 21st, and Saturday, April 4th, at 7:30 p.m. in Friendship at the Unitarian-Universalist Society on Porter Lake Drive in Springfield. For ticket information, call 594-5833 or 736-2324.

BEST LOCAL NEWS

Happy 50th Birthday, Mom!



Love,
Kim, Jacko, Jacob, Jordyn,
Alicia, Jimmy & Jessica

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10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
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T-Bone Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
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Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.99 Lb.
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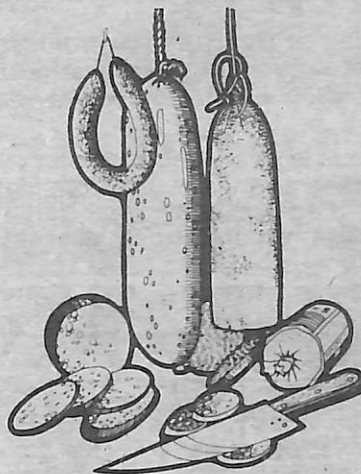
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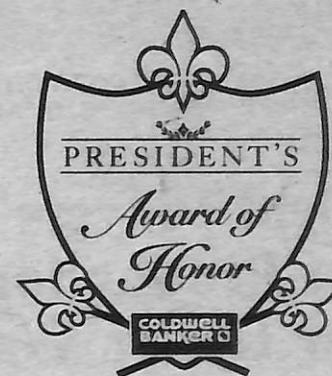
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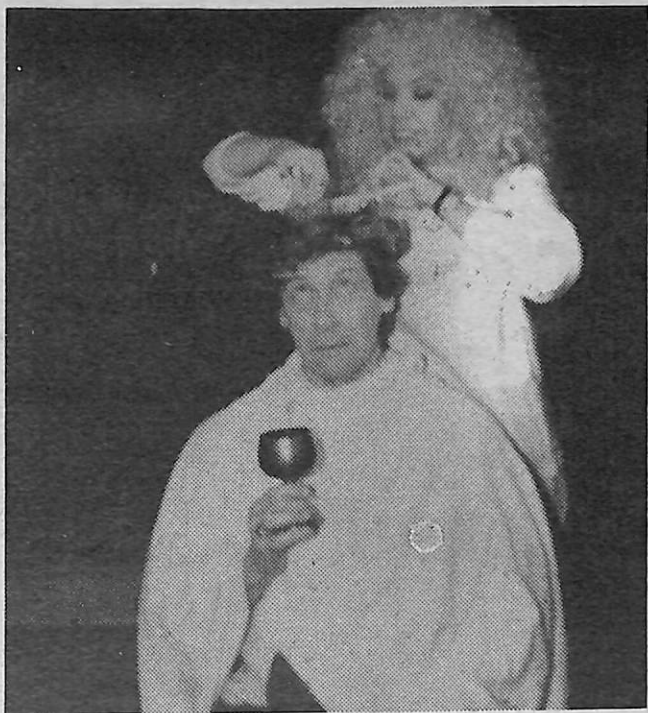
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KONRAD ROGOWSKI (SEATED) AND AMY FACEY in the Suffield Players' "THE MIDLIFE CRISIS OF DIONYSUS."

Suffield Players' Latest Production Is Now Under Way

Ever have one of those days when nothing seems to go quite right? The morning paper is late, you run out of deodorant, and you've got the world's worst case of 'pillow-hair' ever recorded by man??

O.K., so, now imagine that you're a god and this is happening ... bummer, man!! If this has ever happened to you or someone you know, there is hope!! Jump right in your car and go to the Suffield Players' productions of Garrison Keillor's "THE MIDLIFE CRISIS OF DIONYSUS" and Woody Allen's "GOD," and they'll provide the cure for what ails you ... laughter, heavenly laughter!

Call the Players at 1-800-289-6148. Remaining shows are Friday and Saturday, March 20th & 21st (with an optional fourth weekend March 27th and 28th). Doors open at 7:00 p.m., with cheap laughs and divine inspiration starting at 8:00 p.m.

The cost for this heavenly self-help and humor? Just \$12 per person for all remaining performances.

Discounts are available for seniors and students with proper I.D. All shows are at historic Mapleton Hall in Suffield. So, don't miss your chance to discover the secrets of the universe and clean, healthy hair!!

Please note that these shows are intended for mature audiences only.

Junior Women's Club Seeks Crafters For June 6th Crafts Fair

The Agawam Junior Women's Club 24th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair is scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 1998 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Fair will be held on the grounds of the Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main Street in Agawam. Many artisans and crafters from surrounding communities and states will feature a wide variety of quality arts and crafts. The show will be juried and feature approximately 80-100 exhibitors.

Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund. Tours of the historic Captain Charles Leonard House will be available. A Youth Art Exhibit will be on display as well.

The size of each space will be 12' x 12' and a \$45 showing fee will be due at time of application. A food concession will also be available during the day for your convenience.

For more information or an application, please call Paula at 786-0511 or Margaret at 786-2651.

Please remember our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We open at 6:30 a.m.



DO MARK RUSSELL, ALLEN NOTT, AND ROSEANN CALIENTO have any idea of just what's going on? Obviously not, as this scene from Woody Allen's "God" proves! Please stop by and help them figure it all out, by calling the Suffield Players at 1-800-289-6148.

Fifth Annual MA International Festival Of The Arts

A Popular Cultural And Tourist Destination In The Connecticut River Valley

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce that the fifth annual Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts (MIFA) will take place April 17 through May 3, 1998. The events will be presented in various venues throughout the Connecticut River Valley.

The Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts is an annual springtime festival which brings world-class opera, theater, concerts, and film to the Connecticut River Valley region of Massachusetts.

The Festival also highlights the outstanding work of Valley artists and arts organizations during festival time, and specializes in bringing attractions to the Valley that you would be more likely to encounter in a small European festival than in even a major American cultural center like Boston.

The Connecticut River Valley's geographic beauty and cultural history make it an ideal tourist destination. The Valley has a population of 750,000 and is within easy traveling distance of the Boston metropolitan area (1½ hours); the Hartford, Connecticut metropolitan area (45 minutes); the Albany and Worcester areas (1½ hours and 45 minutes, respectively); and the New York metropolitan area (three hours).

Market research shows that these areas constitute another 30.5 million inhabitants. The populations of all the aforementioned Northeastern communities are among the most interested in culture in America and represent the highest 10 percent in educational background and economic income.

Anyone interested in attaining more information on the Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts may contact Rep. Keenan's office at (413) 786-4545, or the Massachusetts International Festival of the Arts at 1-800-224-MIFA.

Book Discussion At Agawam Public Lib. On Monday, March 23

A discussion of Toni Morrison's *Beloved* will be held at the Agawam Public Library on Monday evening, March 23rd, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Morrison conceived of *Beloved* as the first novel in a trilogy that is completed by *Paradise*, her most recent novel.

If you are interested in joining the discussion, please register by March 16th (789-1550). If you need a copy of the novel, you can order one at the library for \$7.50. Book orders must be received by Feb. 23rd.

best local news...

Encore Players To Present The Comedy "BEAU JEST"

David Harvey and David Owen, both from Springfield, are featured in the next Encore Players' production, "BEAU JEST," written by James Sherman.

Both Davids play the "gentile" suitors of the daughter in this comedy of a New York Jewish family. George Dawson is the producer and director, assisted by Lynn-Ann Dawson as the stage manager and Carol Belthazar doing props.

The show is a comedy about the lives of the Goldmans, a New York City Jewish family. Their eligible daughter Sarah's romantic life is the comic source for the production.

The show will be at the Lower Level Theater, St. Luke's Church, 961 St. James Avenue, Springfield (near Serv-U) on March 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 27th, 28th, and 29th. Curtain is at 8:00 p.m. except for two Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are available for \$7-\$9 at The Golden Peacock on White Street at Sumner Avenue, Springfield or at the door. Ticket reservation is recommended. Call (413) 594-5833.

Agawam Cultural Council To Sponsor Bus Trip To NYC

The Agawam Cultural Council will sponsor a New York bus trip on Saturday, May 9, 1998. There are many museums and attractions for people to enjoy and plans can be made to choose attractions each person would like to see.

Five stops will be made to enable participants to easily access their interests. Stops will be made at the Metropolitan Museum, Rockefeller Center, Times Square ticket booth, 34th Street, and the South Street Seaport.

Tickets are \$18 and can be ordered from the Agawam Cultural Council, 933 River Road, Agawam, MA 01001.

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of the tickets. Further information can be gotten by calling 786-1859.

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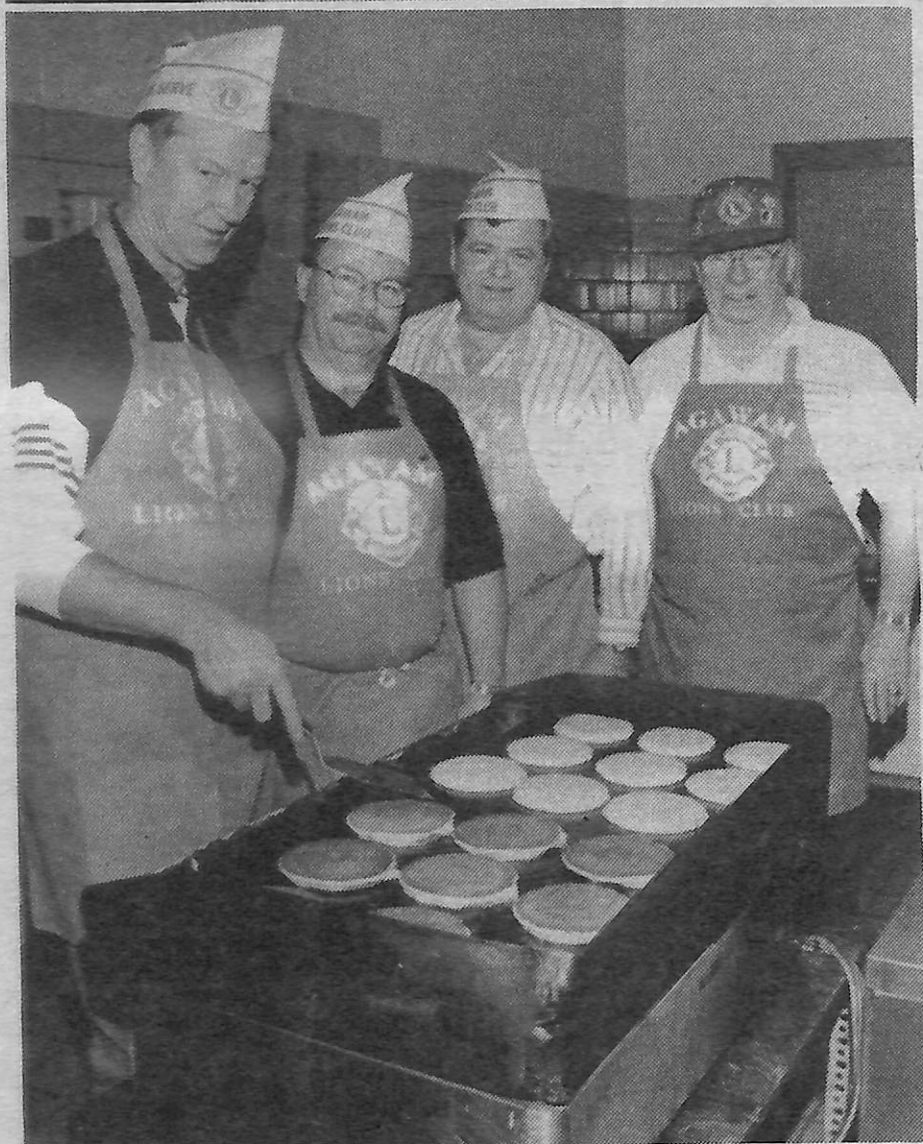
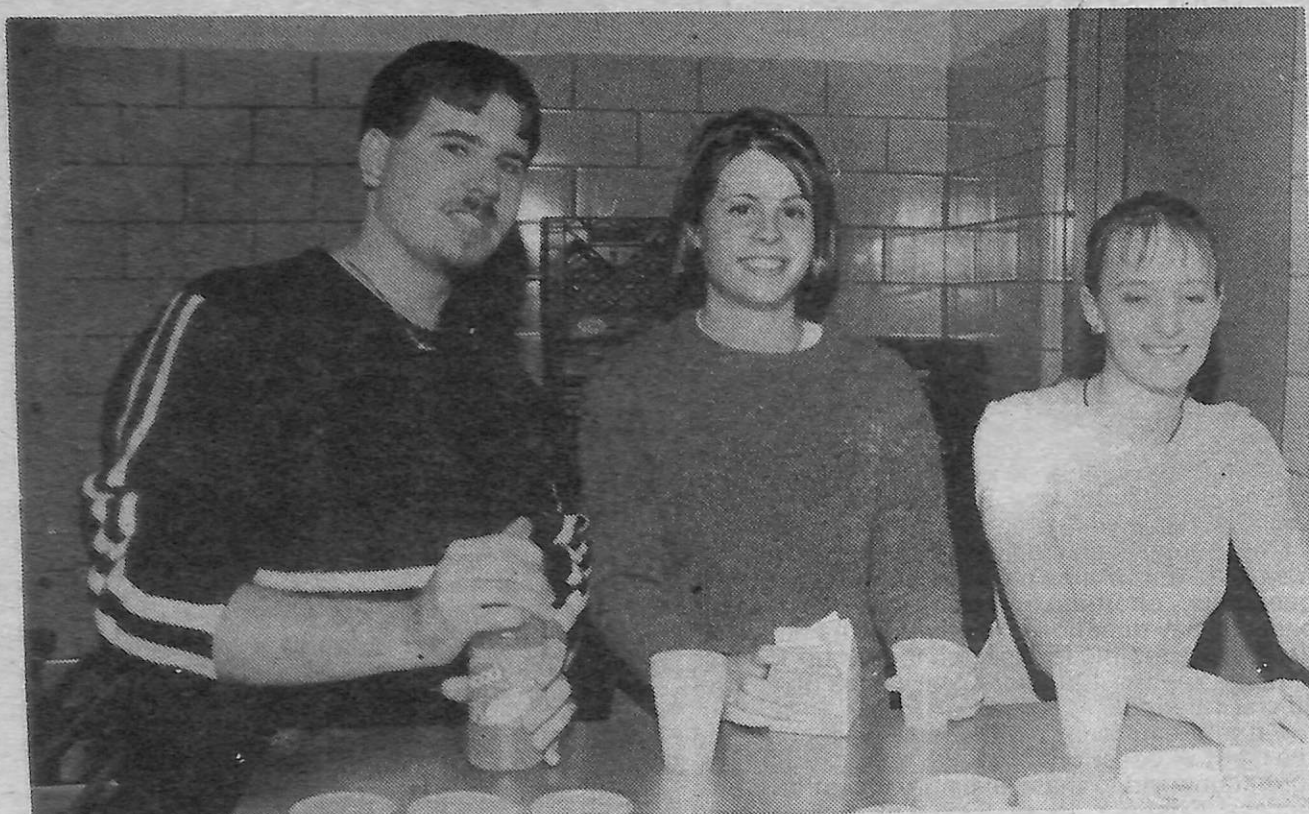
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Education

AHS Band Benefits From Pancake Breakfast



THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL Band benefited from a Pancake Breakfast held earlier this month with help from the Agawam Lions Club. IN TOP PHOTO (left), band members helping on the serving line were Shawn Sherry, Carolyn Clini, and Christina LaValley; IN PHOTO LEFT, Lions Club members are on hand were Roger Sherry, Bob Loomis, Bob Campbell, and Jim Loomis. IN TOP PHOTO (right) and in PHOTO RIGHT, Band Parents Pat Sherry and Judy Clini were taking tickets at the door. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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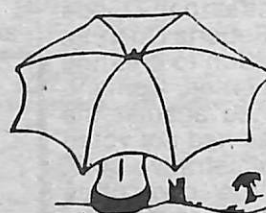


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Czajkowski To Be 1st Asst. Sup. Of Education Services

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last week, the School Committee agreed with Superintendent Frank Ameruso's choice for the school system's first assistant superintendent of educational services.

In a 6-1 vote, the committee appointed Mary Czajkowski to the newly created position. It was the second of two "firsts" for Ms. Czajkowski, who became the School Department's first director of Curriculum and Instruction 16 months ago.

"I'm very excited about the new position," Ms. Czajkowski said. "This demonstrates the School Committee and the administration have placed their trust and confidence in my ability to fulfill the job."

According to School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson, the new position is a "natural evolution" of the curriculum review initiative begun by former School Superintendent Bernard Ryder and former teacher Ann Favreau.

When he became School Committee chairman by referendum six years ago, Johnson said the lack of a vibrant and updated curriculum, as evidenced by less than satisfactory scores on standardized tests, stood out as the one glaring area needing attention.

Tying Critical Areas Together

"The real benefit to the school system is that we're tying a number of critical areas together where we have been historically weak in Agawam and we're turning them into strengths," Johnson said. "Curriculum and instruction, professional development, our Bilingual Education Program, and pupil services will be under the control of one position with line authority to deal with administrators and staff."

With the task of rewriting the curriculum to match the state frameworks for Education Reform about 90 percent complete, the focus will shift to developing a comprehensive professional development plan to ensure the teachers have the appropriate training to implement the new curriculum, Ms. Czajkowski said.

Professional Development A Priority

"Monitoring the curriculum will continue to be an important part of the job, but professional development is going to consume most of my time," Ms. Czajkowski said.

In addition to the \$75,000 earmarked for professional development in the School Budget proposed for next year, the School Department has received an additional state grant of \$165,000 for professional development to assist in integrating computer technology into the curriculum at all grade levels, Ms. Czajkowski said.

In order to provide the professional development required under Education Reform at no cost to the teachers, it is likely that peer-to-peer workshops will be held after school so that teachers who have been trained in new strategies and techniques designed to implement the new curriculum can share their expertise with their peers.

Teachers attending the workshops will earn Professional Development Points, while the teachers running the workshops will be paid a stipend from the professional development fund, Ms. Czajkowski said.

Voting in favor of Ms. Czajkowski's appointment were Johnson, and committee members Louis Massoia, Jr., Susan Pettazzoni, Linda Galarneau, Teresa Kozloski, and Roberta Doering.

Standing by her original opposition to creating the assistant superintendent's position, Committeewoman Rosemary Sandlin voted against the appointment. Pointing out that she had not voted in favor of creating the new administrative post, Mrs. Doering said, "Because the committee chose to support this, I'll vote in favor of Ms. Czajkowski."

The assistant superintendent for Educational Services will be paid a salary of \$71,335 and a car allowance of \$3,600 per year. The position will encompass the duties of the position of director of curriculum and instruction, as well as new responsibilities for directing and supervising professional development, supervising transitional bilingual education and pupil personnel services, and taking on additional educational services not identified in a particular administrative position.

Ms. Czajkowski will assume her new duties beginning in July. As director of curriculum and instruction, Ms. Czajkowski earned a salary of \$56,693.

Agawam Schools Gearing Up For New State Testing Program

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Like school districts across the Commonwealth, Agawam is gearing up to educate parents and the community on the state's new testing program based on the rigorous academic standards set down in the state's new curriculum frameworks.

School Department officials want parents and the community to have as much information about the testing as possible so that they will understand the challenge the students will be facing when the tests are administered for the first time in the spring.

"We want the community to know what's going on. That way, if the scores are not what the public would expect them to be, then they'll know why," said Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruso.

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) will be given to all students in grades four, eight, and 10 for the first time in May in the English language arts, math, and science and technology. In May 1999, history and social science will be added to the testing.

The testing is scheduled to run from May 4th to May 22nd and will be made up of multiple choice questions, short-answer questions, and open-ended essay questions. For the fourth and eighth grades, the testing is expected to take up 15 class periods, and the 10th grade test will be given over 16 class periods.

Parents can learn more about the testing and the types of questions by watching a 13-minute informational video that will be broadcast on Cable Access Channel 15 at 6:45 p.m. before each meeting of the School Committee from now until the testing begins in May.

Also, beginning on Monday, March 23rd, and continuing for the next five weeks, sample test questions will be run on the community bulletin board on Cable Channel 15 Monday through Thursday. The answers and the grade level of the questions will be given each Friday.

"We thought it was only fair for the parents and the community to know what types of questions the students will be expected to answer," said Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mary Czajkowski.

Parents can help make sure their children are prepared for the testing by monitoring their children's progress and homework; maintaining regular communication with the teachers; and by joining their school's PTO or the District Learning

Team, Ms. Czajkowski said.

Other ways for parents to take an active role in preparing for the testing include knowing what the state standards are for their children's grade level; finding out how teachers are being trained to help students meet the new standards; and finding out how the Agawam curriculum reflects the state's curriculum frameworks.

For more information on the MCAS, the Massachusetts Department of Education can be reached on-line at <http://www.doe.mass.edu>.

A Dry Run...

This year's testing will be something of a dry run, with the results counting for little other than setting a baseline to evaluate both the level of student achievement in each school district and the test itself. But, for the class of 2003, failure to pass the 10th-grade test will mean students cannot graduate from high school.

School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson said the State Department of Education is already sending out the message that the baseline test results should not be used to judge the performance of the public schools. Rather, the first test scores should be used to measure the rise in student performance as school districts across the state align their curricula with the state frameworks.

"The spring MCAS is going to send a shock wave through the state," Johnson predicted. "The test is based on curriculum that hasn't been in place long enough to judge student performance, and the students are being tested on curriculum that hasn't even been taught yet."

Johnson said it is impossible to predict how any school system will score on this year's round of testing, but the scores for the 10th graders will probably be the worst because, for 10 years, the students have been studying a curriculum that is not based on the new frameworks.

Beginning in the year 2001, students will be required to pass the 10th-grade assessment test in order to graduate from high school. Johnson said he expects that students who fail the testing as 10th graders will be given remediation and retesting opportunities during the last two years of high school.

Anyone wishing more information on Agawam's curriculum or the MCAS Program can contact Ms. Czajkowski at 821-0568.

Alison Jean Of Feeding Hills Member Of UMass-Lowell Honors Society

What do a trip to the MFA, presenting at a research conference, and white-water rafting have in common? They are all activities enjoyed by students in the University of Massachusetts Lowell Honors Program.

"For years we have had students who do exceptional work. The Honors Program offers students a way to continually challenge themselves and gives them recognition for their success," says Dr. Eugene Mellican, director of the program. The program sponsors a seminar series, art gallery presentations, enriched academic courses, and other activities.

Now in its third year, more than 200 UMass Lowell students participate in the Honors program, including Alison Jean of Feeding Hills, a senior in criminal justice, who is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society.

Requirements for an honors diploma include achieving a 3.20 grade point average, completing

24 credits of honors courses, taking the Honors Colloquium course, and writing an Honors Senior Thesis.

The Honors Colloquium, taught by Mellican is a year-long, interdisciplinary course focusing on "Knowledge and Its Human Consequences."

"Benefits of the program flow into all undergraduate programs," says Mellican. Honors courses, for honors credit, are available to all students. Undergraduate research, funded through faculty-student research grants, is presented at the Massachusetts Annual Conference on Undergraduate Research, Scholarly, Creative, and Public Service Activities.

The Honors Program at UMass Lowell offers students a challenging academic experience which features a balance of intellectually stimulating seminars, colloquia, and social events.

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Agawam High Guidance Report

by Paul C. Cavallo
Chairman

Guidance Bulletin...

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES: Congratulations!

Maureen Dimock: Fordham University.

Jennifer Thibodeau: University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire, Hartwick College.

Darrell Malachowski: Springfield Technical Community College.

Michelle Kowalewski: Worcester State College.

Bryan O'Quinn: George Mason University, St. John's University.

Geoff Krapf: Syracuse University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Heather Arcangeletti: Assumption College.

Daryl St. Laurent: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Vanessa Galluzzo: Springfield Technical Community College.

Linda Roy: Springfield Technical Community College, Westfield State College.

Maria Tirone: Springfield Technical Community College.

Erin Ottomaniello: Springfield Technical Community College, Holyoke Community College.

Jill DeMarco: Marist College.

Shawn Sherry: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Dan Cizek: Hartwick College.

Anthony Planzo: Springfield Technical Community College.

Kelly Knowlton: Westfield State College, Holyoke Community College.

James Crowley: University of New Hampshire.

Jody Bulat: Springfield Technical Community College.

Karen Lapienski: Springfield Technical Community College.

Amy Maynard: Springfield Technical Community College.

Jennifer Fleming: Springfield Technical Community College, Holyoke Community College.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or a scholarship application.

Pirandello Lyceum Scholarship: This scholarship is available to students with a high academic average, high SAT scores, involvement in activities, financial need, and students who have studied the Italian language. Deadline: April 15, 1998.

Mark A. Curto Memorial Scholarship: Open to local high school seniors who plan to pursue higher education on a full-time basis. The applicant should demonstrate a love of life, family, and friends and possess a competitive spirit. This award strives to recognize fellowship and effort more than achievement. Deadline: May 25, 1998.

Nellie Mae Essay Contest: This year's theme is "Explore Future Worlds with Good Credit." Deadline: April 3, 1998.

OPEN HOUSE: See your counselor for more information.

Rutgers University: Saturday, April 18, 1998.

REMINDERS:

Seniors, please inform your counselor when you receive a college acceptance.

Warning slips were issued last Friday, March 13th, at Agawam High School.



BRIAN LEPPER

Brian Lepper Named International Advisor By AIC Dean

Brian Lepper of Agawam has been named international student advisor at American International College. The announcement was made recently by Blaine K. Stevens, vice president of student affairs and dean of students.

Lepper earned his bachelor of science degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he also served as new students program counselor and as a resident assistant.

As international student advisor, Lepper will be responsible for counseling and mentoring international students and organizing events for the international student club.

American International College is a private, coeducational college founded in 1885. The College offers more than 35 undergraduate programs in the Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Psychology and Education, and the Divisions of Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Nursing.

For more information, contact the Office of Public Relations at (413) 747-6231.

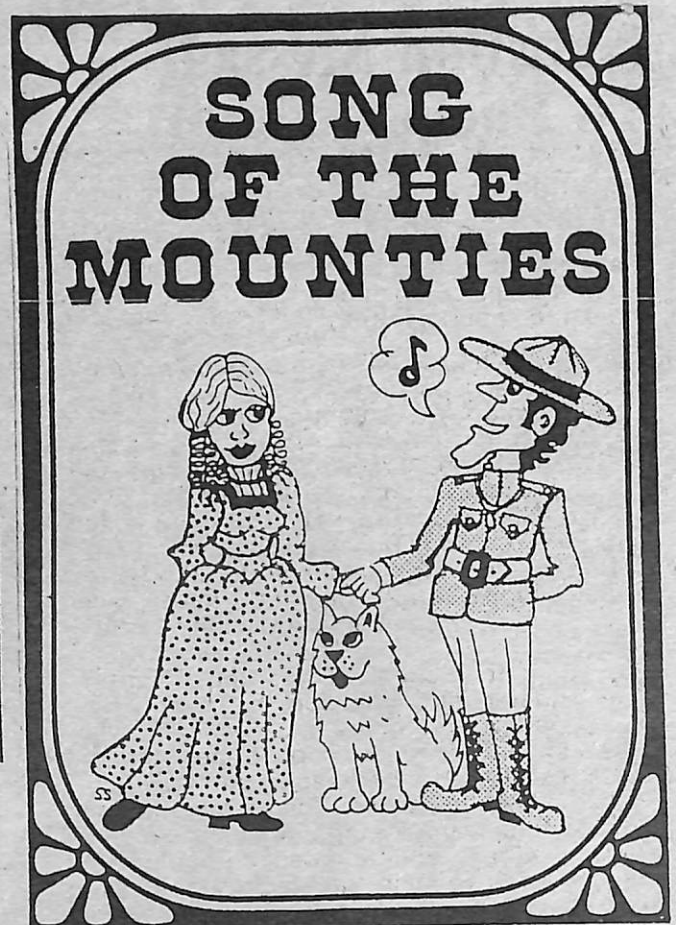
Youth Cheerleading Plans Parents Meeting For Monday, March 30

A meeting for parents of any girls interested in trying out for AGAWAM YOUTH CHEERLEADING will be held on Monday, March 30th, in the Faolin Peirce room at the Agawam Police Station.

This meeting is just for parents; the girls do not need to come. You must register your daughter for practices and tryouts this night. Any necessary information will be given out at that time.

Tryout are set to begin on April 6th. If you have any questions, please call Irene Lemieux, 789-3071, or JoAnn Trauschke, 789-0730.

best local news



Jr. High Drama Club To Present "Song Of The Mounties"

The Agawam Junior High School Drama Club will present the play "Song of the Mounties" on Friday, March 20th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Junior High auditorium.

The performance is free and all are welcome to attend.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, March 23rd: Oven-baked rib-b-q dippers with dipping sauce, bread and butter, French fries with catsup, chilled sliced pears, milk.

Tuesday, March 24th: Hamburg in roll, steamed rice, seasoned niblet corn, peach crisp, milk.

Wednesday, March 25th: Rotini with meatsauce, Italian bread and butter, broccoli cuts, chilled pineapple tidbits or chocolate pudding, milk.

Thursday, March 26th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets with honey, whipped potatoes, seasoned diced carrots, bread and butter, cherry cobbler, milk.

Friday, March 27th: Baked macaroni and cheese sauce, half peanut butter sandwich, tossed garden salad with dressing, rosy applesauce, ice cream, milk.

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FOODPLAY To Bring Nutrition Message To Phelps School

FOODPLAY, a national award-winning nutrition theatre show, will bring juggling, puppets, rap music, and plenty of audience participation to make nutrition come alive for students at the Benjamin Phelps Elementary School in Agawam thanks to sponsorship by the Phelps Elementary PTO.

FOODPLAY addresses the major nutrition concerns affecting today's schoolchildren as it helps them develop the skills they need to grow up healthy and fit. During the fun-filled performance, students help Toby, the coach of the Kid's U.S. Juggling Team (performed by Gil Pontius) teach his prize juggling pupil, "Janey Junkfood" (performed by Jennifer Thompson), how to juggle the foods she eats to wind up with a balanced diet.

Students learn the consumer skills they need to make sense of today's confusing food marketplace—how to see through TV commercials, read food labels, and get the most nutritional value for their money. They'll also learn the importance of having a good breakfast as well as ways to cut down on sugar and fat when eating at home, school, or on the run. Teachers will receive Nutrition Activity Kits for in-class follow-up and students, a snack guide to share with their families.

While FOODPLAY makes good eating great fun, its messages are quite serious. Today, one out of every four children are overweight with the likelihood of remaining overweight as adults, thereby increasing their risk of the leading causes of death in this country—heart disease, cancer, and strokes.

The average American youngster consumes over 125 pounds of sugar, drinks over 500 cans of soda a year, and many are already showing signs of high cholesterol levels from fast food diets too rich in fat. With more single parent headed and two working parent homes, children are increasingly left to make their own food decisions.

All too often, highly processed convenience and fast foods rich in sugar, salt, and fat become their mainstay. At the same time, statistics show alarming rates of eating disorders and harmful dieting practices among younger and younger children. FOODPLAY is designed to help change all that...in a spirit of fun and celebration.

FOODPLAY has reached over one million schoolchildren coast-to-coast and has received a host of awards, including an **EMMY AWARD** for its made-for-TV special, "Janey Junkfood's Fresh Adventure!"

FOODPLAY was created by nutritionist Barbara Storper, MS., R.D., who received the "Outstanding Young Nutrition Educator in the Country Award," "National Nutrition Action Award," and "Media Partnership Award" from the Society for Nutrition Education for "success in improving the health habits of the nation's schoolchildren."

Susan DeFilipi Attains Dean' List At WNEC

Susan DeFilipi of Agawam has earned a place on the Dean's List at Western New England College by receiving a 3.67 grade point average.

This honor is reserved for those students whose grade point average for the term is 3.30 or higher and who have carried a full program of studies.

Susan is a Pharmacy Major and the daughter of Robert and Janice DeFilipi of 24 Prospect Street, Agawam.

Origami Class Offered At Agawam Library

The Agawam Public Library will offer the third program in its continuing series for Agawam and Feeding Hills young adults.

Origami, the art of paperfolding, will be offered to Middle and Junior High School students, on Monday, March 30th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

PLEASE REGISTER BY CALLING 789-1550, OR VISITING THE LIBRARY.

Local Students On St. Mary's Honor Roll

St. Mary's High School in Westfield is pleased to announce that the following area students have made Honors for the school's second marking period.

They are Heidy Rydell (First Honors, senior) and Anne-Marie Audette (Second Honors, freshman).



GRANGER SCHOOL BROWNIE TROOP 542 has been busy all year with a large variety of activities, and participated in the Annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale.



GIRL SCOUTS

THE GIRL SCOUTS

AS GREAT AS YOU WANT TO MAKE IT

Brownie Troop 566 has accomplished many things so far this year. We kicked off the year with a Hayride and pumpkin painting at Fini's Farm, then proceeded to get right down to business earning the "Art to Wear" try it. The girls did mask making, papier-mache beads & bracelets, t-shirt painting, and belt-weaving.

In December, we made Christmas ornaments and gingerbread houses and took a trip to the Giving Tree. We are currently working on the "Safety" try it and have made message centers of landscapes of our neighborhood.

All the girls used their new safety skills while selling cookies. Two girls in our troop sold over 400 boxes of cookies, one at 413 and the other at 629!!! WOW!!! Great work!!

During the cookie season, we managed to find time to taste the cookie flavors as ice cream. What a treat!!

Our trip to Camp Bonnie Brae for the Winterfest was sheer delight. We tried our hard at cross country skiing, played games, made cookies, and came in first place in the snow sculpture contest.

In February, we still have not slowed down. Valentines were made for the Soldiers' Home. We enjoyed an evening of roller skating with all our Girl Scout friends. The troop is also looking forward to our trip to Laughing Brook this month to have fun and earn the "Movers" try it.

In the future, we are planning a camp-out at Bonnie Brae, a tour of the Firehouse, and hopefully, a nice trip to Boston for a day in June.

In October, Brownie Troop 542 of Granger Elementary School welcomed back 11 girls from last year and two new girls joined our troop this year - Ashley and Rose. Ashley joined us as a first-year

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Brownie, and Rose joins us from another school in her second year of Brownies.

Our hayride at Pell Farms in Somers, CT was rained out again but we made the best of it by decorating pumpkins at our first meeting of the year.

In November, we enjoyed a hike around the Westfield Reservoir and made picture frames from twigs. Of course, we put our troop pictures in these.

In December, we made angel decorations, wrapped gifts that each girl donated for the Adopt-A-Child program sponsored by the Junior Women's Club, and went caroling at the Danahy House in Agawam.

In January, we began working on requirements for our Bridge to Juniors. This included becoming friends with Rachel, a Junior Girl Scout, who has volunteered her time to assist us in completing these requirements by the end of the year.

During one of our meetings, Michele Morris discussed with the girls and demonstrated some simple first aid techniques that they could administer in case of accident or emergency when hiking, at the beach, helping in the kitchen, or even playing in the backyard, while waiting for help to arrive.

On January 26th, we had an Investiture ceremony for Ashley, followed by a Candlelight Rededication for the rest of the troop. Many parents attended as well. Thank you for your support.

With the start of the annual cookie sales, we are also completing activities to earn the new Cookie try-it. Karen Nagel, our Cookie Mom, gave a short presentation to the girls regarding the cookie sale and selling safety.

February activities include decorating Valentine cards for the Soldiers' Home, a visit from Daisy Troop 563, the Rollaway, developing first aid kits, and storytelling to celebrate "Once Upon A Time" Day, February 24th.

Brownie Troop 542 members: Caitlin B., Heather C., Rose G., Allison H., Ember H., Nicole K., Lisa L., Ashley M., Erica M., Jenna N., Sarah O., Amber P., and Kathleen T.

Leaders: Cindy Lemire and Michele Morris.

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MEMBERS OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 78 of the Springfield Turnverein celebrated "Boy Scout Sunday" by attending Mass at St. John's Church in Agawam Center.

Boy Scout Troop 78 Celebrates "Boy Scout Sunday"

Boy Scout Troop 78 of the Springfield Turnverein celebrated Boy Scout Sunday by attending Mass at St. John's in Agawam. Several members participated in the Mass as well.

The boys had a great time at the Klondike Derby held at Moses Scout Reservation last month. The Frog Patrol won second in Storm Camp, third in Pioneering, and third in the Iditarod. The Indian Patrol won third in Snow Blindness and the Panther Patrol won first in the Iditarod. The Troop was recognized for "Scout Spirit."

Two adults from the troop, Bob and Sandy Crawford, received Scouters' Training Awards at a recent banquet.

A great time was had by all at the Valentine Dance. A special thank you to all who attended and supported the Troop. Congratulations to Bob Brock, winner of the Washington D.C. trip raffled off that evening.

The boys will be continuing to work on advancements. Also, besides regular campouts, they will be planning for their summer camping trip to Glens Falls, New York. Requests for donations to support boys in need of a campership in order to attend camp are being sent out throughout the community. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Rob Skiba at 786-8663.

If at any time you would like information about the Troop, meetings are held on Tuesday nights from 7:00-9:00 at the Springfield Turnverein or call Scoutmaster Ray LaBorde at 789-0097.

Italian-American Societies/Clubs Have Scholarships Available

The United Italian-American Societies and Clubs of Greater Springfield have announced that scholarship applications for high school seniors of Italian descent who plan to go on to college are available at high school guidance offices in the Greater Springfield area (Springfield, West Springfield, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Chicopee, and Agawam).

Students of Italian descent interested in applying for the \$500 scholarships to help defray college expenses are urged to contact their guidance counselors for an application. *Completed applications must be postmarked no later than April 1, 1998.*

For further information, please contact Frank Stirlacci at 739-0024.

Agawam Schools To Hold Screenings

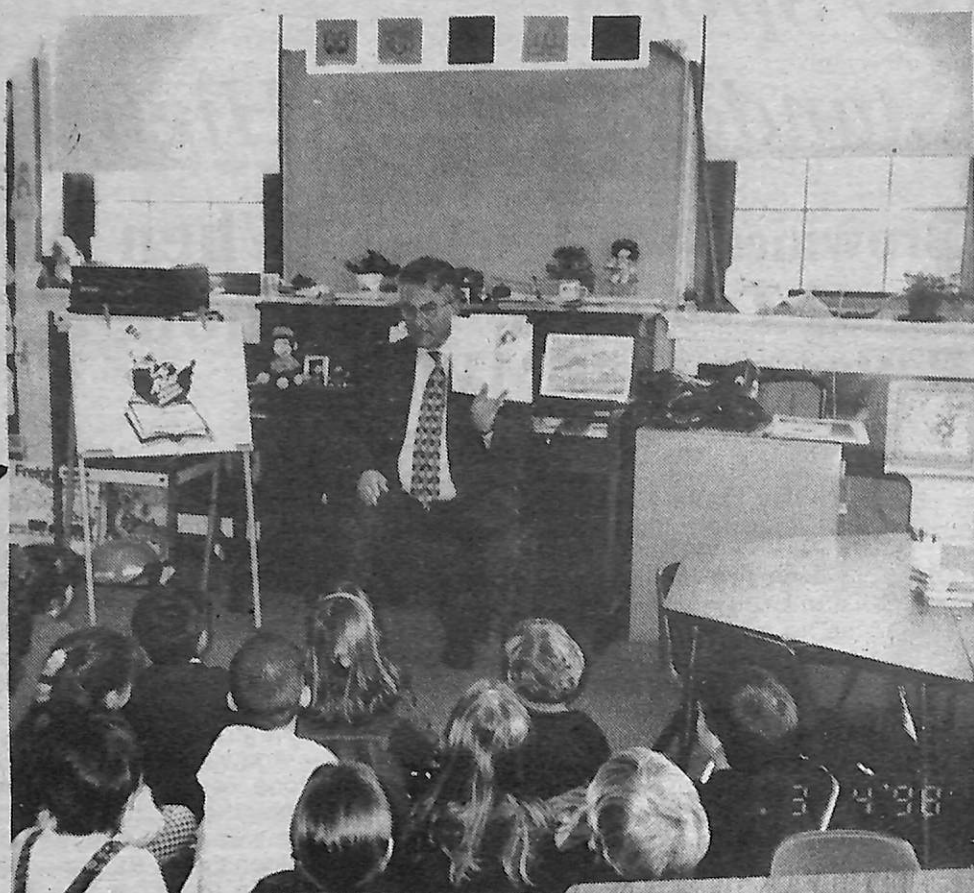
The Agawam Public Schools will be conducting registration and screening of children entering kindergarten in September 1998. Children who will be five (5) years of age prior to October 1st are eligible for enrollment in kindergarten in September.

Chapter 766, the Massachusetts Special Education Regulations, requires that each school district provide services for identifying children with special needs. Screening is not a test nor an in-depth evaluation, but an observance of how a child is growing in different areas of development.

Screening dates are as follows: Clark School, April 2nd and 3rd; Phelps School, April 16th and 17th; Granger School, April 30th and May 1st; Robinson Park School, May 7th and 8th.

Parents who have not already contacted their neighborhood school should do so immediately. Children will be screened by appointment only.

Ameruoso Loves Dr. Seuss



ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4TH, the Phelps School kindergarten students from Jane Sauter's and Nora Bruno's classes enjoyed Dr. Seuss' "The Cat In The Hat Comes Back" as read by Superintendent of Schools Frank Ameruoso.

NO ONE covers all the local news like Kathy Cassanelli, our news editor. Kathy is another reason why you turn our pages every week - *Advertiser News!*



The Agawam Soccer Association will be holding

**SIGN-UPS
for
FALL SOCCER**

March 28, 1998
and

May 2, 1998
10:00 am - 2:00pm

Agawam Middle School

These sign-ups are for both

IN-TOWN & PIONEER VALLEY PROGRAMS
(Boys and Girls born between 8/1/81 and 7/31/93)

\$35.00 registration fee per child

\$85.00 Maximum per family

Child's Social Security Number and Date of Birth are Required

NOTE: Co-ed under 17 league will play on Sunday afternoons only!



Sports

Standards Very High At AHS...

Brownies Nip Frontier In SH Tournament; Patterson Gets MVP

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Okay, so it wasn't the finals of the Western Mass. Division I Tournament.

There was no regional prestige on the line, no dreams of moving on to a state title, no big crowds jamming the gym. At best, bragging rights as the best team in town were on the line in this one.

We're talking about the South Hadley Lions Club Girls' Basketball Tournament. It's a post season blast for teams that didn't quite make it in the big local dance. Agawam won it Friday night, beating the tough Lady Redskins from Frontier Regional, 64-62 at picturesque Mount Holyoke College.

Frontier (18-2 regular season) is a powerhouse. They were the second seed in the Division III bracket of the Western Mass. playoffs. They had reached the finals of the tournament in three of the last four seasons. This year they fell in the semi's to Pioneer Valley. They were led by junior center Virginia Wolfram and her 18 points a game average.

Sadly, any member of the Brownie faithful brigade knew the past Agawam High season only too well. This game, as removed as it was from the limelight, was, in a fashion, some measure of redemption. But it was not going to be a cakewalk for the kids. They would earn their victory.

Agawam, playing without standout junior two guard Barbara Maloni, who was still nursing a sore knee sustained vs Minnechaug on February 19th, was slow out of the blocks. Their transition game was sputtering. On defense, they dumped their in-your-shirt man defense in favor of a 1-2-2 zone. Frontier was ahead, 9-6, with 4:06 gone. A three-pointer a minute later put them up 14-8. But the Brownies were patient, working on their half-court game.

Center Pia Bertone-Gross (17 points) was posting up. They were getting the ball to her. She took a look for the cutter, and when there was none, took it to the hole. Senior Kristen Patterson (22 points), who had 19 and 26 points respectively in their first two games of the Lions tournament, was stalking the perimeter. The Lady Redskins were pulling away, 16-8, when the Brownie sparkplug hit a three and two free throws to stop the bleeding and cut the lead to 16-11 with 6:36 off the clock. At that point, Agawam was shooting 4-9 from the field as opposed to 6-10 for Frontier.

Brownies Creeping Closer

Slowly, the Brownies were creeping closer. Sophomore Sheri Benton hit a deuce from the left wing. Patterson, a few seconds later, hit two more free throws. It was 18-17, Frontier, with 7:50 left. However, the Lady Redskins were not about to take a mental trip to the showers. Wolfram, a big frame who wears a tattoo on her right shoulder and can tattoo defenders from the low post, scored four straight to put her club back up, 22-17, with 6:41 to go. Senior wing Amber Conte drained a trademark trey at the 5:58 mark to make it 24-20, Frontier.

The Lady Redskins were ahead, 27-24, with 3:20 left when Bertone-Gross, battling Wolfram in the paint, banged a bunny. Patterson, off a Frontier turnover, hit two. And for the first time in the game, Agawam led, 28-27, on 10-20 shooting. Frontier was 9-20 from the field. Down the first half stretch, junior Kara Tierney sandwiched a couple two's around a Frontier trey and the Brownies took a 33-30 lead into the locker room.

Agawam enjoyed that lead off a 13-25 (52 percent) performance from the floor and 5-6 from the line. Frontier managed to shoot 11-23 (47 percent) from the field and 6-7 from the stripe. Each team had two three's.

The Brownies came out in their patented press to start the second half and it was clear Patterson would be the deciding factor in this game.

For two minutes and 25 seconds, they held Frontier to just one field goal in 11 attempts. Unfortunately, the locals went 0-4, as the Lady Redskins stepped up their defense. A deuce and a free throw of an offensive rebound saw them turn a 35-34 deficit into a 37-35 lead.

SEE WIN TOURNERY - Page 41...

When Is A 20-2 Season Not Good Enough? When You Play For AHS!

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

When you finish a season with a record of 20-2, it would seem you had a successful season. Maybe, but that's not really the way the Agawam High girls' basketball team looks at the situation.

Yes 20-2 is impressive. But the Brownies, who strive for excellence year in and year out, didn't get the brass ring, falling short of a Western Mass. Division I crown which many felt would have propelled them to a state title.

Agawam started out winning its first 10 games. None of their opponents caused them to raise more than a little sweat. The big one early on came January 26th at Minnechaug Regional. The Falcons were the defending state champs. They'd beaten the Brownies twice last season, coming from behind in two close games, including the one for the Western Mass. Championship. Many felt it was payback time. They played at Minnechaug and the Falcons blew them out of the water, 54-28. Agawam does not employ excuses. But Barbara Maloni, one of the best players in Western Mass., and averaging 18 points a game at the time, did not play due to a sprained ankle. Had she done so, things might have been different.

Final Contest At Home

The 10-1 Brownies then went on to win their next eight games. The final contest of the regular season was at home against Minnechaug. Agawam had been waiting for this one. Before a packed house of more than 800 fans, they beat the Falcons, 51-45. Maloni, back for this one, scored 21 points. That victory saw them finish at 19-1. It was good enough to again grab a share of the Valley Wheel (with Minnechaug) title and the top seed in the girls' Division I bracket of the Western Mass. Tournament.

Their first game, against Westfield in the quarterfinals, was little more than a practice session. Maloni sat it out with a knee injury she sustained against Minnechaug. Point guard Kristen Patterson took up the slack, scoring 23 points. Center Pia Bertone-Gross chipped in with 15. Amber Conte had 12 and the Brownies won in a walk, 58-28. They could taste a rubber game with Minnechaug, which was also cruising through the playoffs.

Then the roof caved in. They met fifth seeded West Springfield, Wednesday, March 4th at Curry Hicks Cage at UMass. History was on their side. They'd whipped the Terriers twice during the year, 61-44 and 71-55. The Brownies held a 10-1 edge over their traditional foe going back four seasons. So it should have been a no brainer, right? The Brownies, perhaps looking ahead to the Falcons, didn't take care of business. They fell, 55-50 because they couldn't put the ball in the ocean. Their dream had died on the cold wood floor of the Cage. There would be no rematch with Minnechaug. There would be no opportunity for a state title, which the team felt was well within their reach. Instead, it was a silent and long bus ride home in the dark. Minnechaug went on to



SOPHOMORE KATIE SHANNON is one of the returning young players who figures to play a much expanded role for the Brownies next season.

again win the state title in rather easy fashion. Their best and most intense opponent was at home while they beat up on Central Mass. and then Eastern Mass.

When you look at the books, though, Agawam had a stellar season. In 22 games, they outscored their opponents - 1,254 (57 ppg) to 812 (36.9 ppg). If defense does indeed win championships, there should have been a big one in there for the Brownies. Coach Lou Conte always contended that if you held your opponents to 50 or less points a game, you'd put yourself in an excellent position to win. In 19 out of their 22 games, they did just that. Their two losses saw them give up more than 50.

Largest Margin Of Victory

The Brownies' highest point production during the 1997-98 season came against Northampton on January 23rd when they beat the visitors, 75-28. The 47-point difference was also their largest margin of victory for the campaign.

Their lowest point output was 28 in their loss at Minnechaug.

SEE WHEN YOU PLAY - Page 41...



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WHEN YOU PLAY FOR - from Page 40...

Their closest margin of victory came February 2nd, 55-50 at Amherst. The game before that (January 30th), against Holyoke, saw them record their best points against mark, in a 56-17 win.

In every one of their 20 wins, the Brownies led at the half. In their two losses, they were behind at intermission. Their biggest halftime lead was 30-4 against Holyoke. Their closest margin at the break was 25-22 vs. Longmeadow on February 6th.

Individually, junior two guard Barbara Maloni led all scorers with 380 points (despite missing four games) for a 21.1 ppg average. Patterson had 246 for an 11.1 average.

Among the other starters, Pia Bertone-Gross put in 197 points (8.9 ppg); Melissa Cote chipped in with 154 (7 ppg); and Amber Conte had 116 and a 5.2 ppg average.

Among the reserves, sophomore guard Kate Shannon wound up with 44. Freshman forward Laura Bucalo had 29, as did junior forward Kara Tierney. Senior sixth player Shauna Hadden had 28, and sophomore guard Sheri Benton contributed 25.

High point games this year were 31 by Maloni against Longmeadow and in the second West Side game. Patterson had a season high of 24 against Cathedral. Bertone-Gross had 18 against Holyoke. Melissa Cote poured in 19 in the win against Comp. Amber Conte recorded a high of 12 in the playoff game against Westfield.

Excellent From Three-Point Land

Agawam was excellent from the three-point stripe all season long. Conte led the trey parade with 20. Patterson was right behind with 16 and Maloni had eight. Cote had three, as did Benton. Kate Shannon had one. The biggest three-point production of the year was Patterson's four in the playoff game against Westfield. Besides that, in four games a Brownie player had at least three 3's. Conte did it in the opening win against Egg Harbor. Patterson got three against Longmeadow. Maloni recorded three in the final regular season game against West Side. Patterson came up with three in the playoff loss to the Terriers. Three times during the season, Agawam had six three-pointers in a game: Egg Harbor (Conte, three; Patterson, Cote, and Maloni); Whitman-Hanson (Conte, two; Benton, two; Patterson, and Maloni); and Westfield in the playoffs (Patterson, four, and Conte, two).

Three milestones were reached in the 1997-98 campaign. On January 30th against Holyoke at Kibbe Gym, Kristen Patterson, on a drive and pop in the paint, recorded her 1,000th point of her career in a 12-point performance. She would go on to score a total of 1,105, putting her fifth on the Agawam girls' 1,000-point list as a point guard. Eleven days later on February 10th, Maloni, on a three-point jumper on the right wing (off an assist by Patterson), would join the 1,000-point club against West Springfield. She would end the season with 1,113 points, which puts her fourth on the list. Being a junior, she will most likely move up as next season progresses.

Coach Lou Conte also got some glory. On Friday, January 9th in a 68-26 win over Central, he recorded the 200th win of his dozen year career. Typically, the coach played it down. "It's not about me and what I do. It's all about the kids and what they do and how hard they work," he said. His record after this season now stands at 214 up and 51 down for a .807 winning average.

Patterson Era Comes To A Close

The Kristen Patterson era came to a close this season. "They will be tough sneakers to fill," Conte admitted. He noted that without Patterson, their relentless transition game will most likely change. "We won't have that end-to-end speed anymore. We will be a different team, no doubt."

The coach stressed that how well they do next year will hinge upon what they do this summer. "They have to stay in condition and play a lot of basketball against the best competition they can find."

As of now, Maloni, Bertone-Gross, and Cote will be back as seniors. They'll be the nucleus of the team. Junior Kara Tierney, as well as sophomores Kate Shannon and Sheri Benton, saw action and gained experience. Furthermore, Bucalo worked hard as a freshman.

Don't be fooled — 1998-1999 will see the Brownies once again as one of the region's premier schoolgirl basketball teams.

Wanted: Ladies 60 Or Older For Sr. Ctr. Pool Club

The Agawam Senior Center Ladies' Pool Club wants you, whether you are just learning to play or have never picked up a pool stick (cue).

Expert or novice, come join us on Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. We guarantee you will have a good time and meet interesting people.

Best Hometown Sports...

WIN TOURNEY - from Page 40...

The Brownies, however, didn't ditch the press. After all, it was one of the things that got them a 19-1 regular season record, a share of the Valley Wheel crown, and the top seed in the Western Mass. Tournament.

Finally, with 3:30 gone, sophomore Kate Shannon hit two from underneath to break the drought. With 4:14 gone, junior Melissa Cote (10 points) hit a deuce from down low and followed up with a free throw off a foul to tie it at 41.

Patterson brought the faithful to their feet a bit later with a rebound and a coast-to-coast sprint, giving the Brownies a 44-41 lead. All the while, Agawam continued to press before dropping into its zone.

Brownies' Largest Lead Of The Game

Frontier tied it up at 45 at the 9:33 mark. Agawam was up again with 6:55 to go when Conte threaded the needle to Cote, camped underneath, to give Agawam a five-point lead, 52-47. Cote (11 rebounds) grabbed an offensive board and laid the rock up and in to give Agawam its largest lead of the game, 55-47.

The Lady Redskins were a pesky group. Obviously they didn't know, or care, that they were facing a Division I power. With 3:52 left, they were shooting 9-16 from the field as opposed to 6-19 for the Brownies. Wolfram, with her club down 56-54 at the 2:03 mark, went up strong off an offensive rebound, got fouled, and hit two, tying it up at 56.

Maybe that was the wake-up call Agawam had been waiting for. Benton drained a deuce. Cote followed up with another. Bertone-Gross (11 rebounds) grabbed a big board off a Lady Redskin miss, got fouled, and hit two from the line. Just like that, it was 62-56, Brownies, with 50 seconds left.

Patterson hit two from the stripe with a half minute left to give her club a 64-58 edge. Frontier would not die. They scored four straight off two Brownie turnovers. Agawam was looking at a thin

64-62 lead with three seconds to go. Frontier had the inbound pass under its own net. Luckily for the Brownies, the final Lady Redskins' shot had no legs and fell short, preserving the Agawam victory.

It was Agawam's second South Hadley Tournament title in the last three years. (They were in the finals last season, but a snowstorm canceled the championship game.) Patterson was named the 'A' Division MVP, the second time she has won that honor. Later, the brilliant point guard smiled about the whole thing. "This tournament is always a lot of fun. We want to win, sure, but the pressure isn't quite the same as some other tournaments."

Later, downstairs, as the kids were getting ready to leave the gym, a fan approached Conte, saying how much he enjoyed seeing her play in her final high school game. Amber smiled, but was slightly sad. She thanked him. Then she said, "I would have liked my last game to be tomorrow, in the State Finals." She was, of course, referring to that Saturday, where Valley Wheel rival Minnechaug would see action against Andover. The Falcons won by double figures for their second straight State crown.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Patterson - 22 pts, 5-17 fgs (29 percent) plus a 3, 11-14 fts (78 percent), 1 steal, 4 rebs, 1 off; Bertone Gross - 17 points, 6-10 fgs (60 percent), 5-6 fts (83 percent), 11 rebs, 2 off; Cote - 10 pts, 4-9 (44 percent), 2-3 fts (66 percent), 11 rebs, 3 off, 2 steals; Benton - 4 pts, 2-2 fgs, 1 off, 1 def reb; Tierney - 4 pts, 2-4 fts, 1 off reb; Conte - 3 pts, 1-1, a 3, 1 def reb; Bucalo - 1 pt, 1-2 ft, 1 off reb; Hadden - 0 pts, 0-1 fgs, 1 reb.

AGAWAM TEAM STATS: FGS, 21-48 (43 percent) including two 3's; FTS, 20-27 (77 percent); Rebounds - 31, 8 off; Turnovers - 15; Points allowed off turnovers - 6.

FRONTIER TEAM STATS: FGS, 24-50 (48 percent) including two 3's; FTS, 12-21 (57 percent); Rebounds - 17, 5 off; Turnovers - 9; Points allowed off turnovers, 2.

Parks Dept. Has Summer Employment

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department is now accepting applications for summer employment. Possible positions include camp director, camp specialist, camp counselor, camp nurse, pool director, head lifeguard, water safety instructor, lifeguard, and tennis instructor.

Applicants must be 16 years or older to be eligible for employment.

Applications and brief job descriptions are available at the Recreation Office, 760 Cooper St.,

Agawam. Application deadline for camp or pool director is April 1, 1998; all other positions, the deadline is April 15, 1998.

For more information, call the Agawam Recreation Department at 821-0514.

The Town of Agawam is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community.

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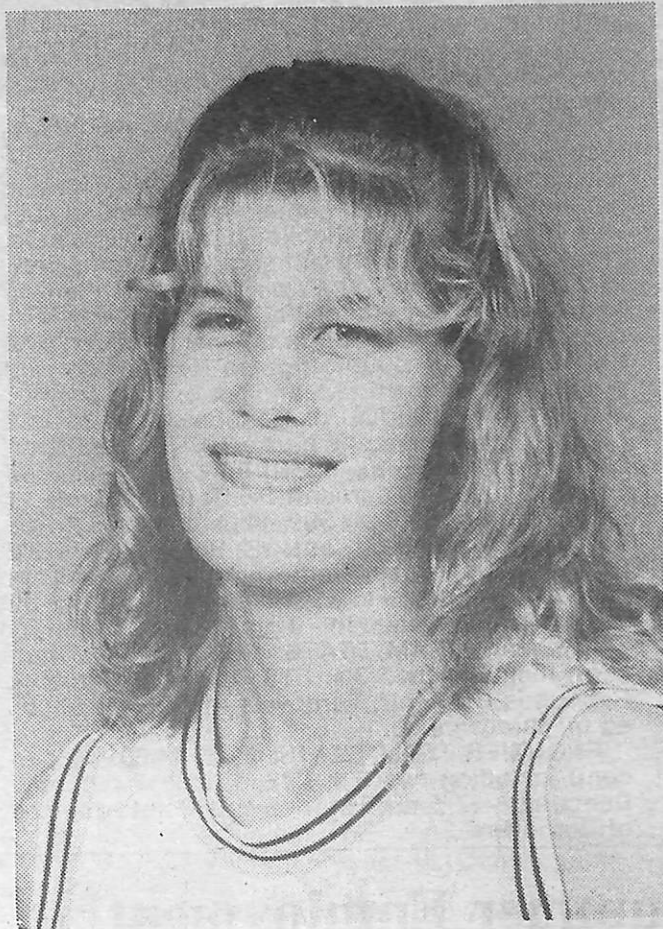
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Former AHS Girls Star Cyndi Fontanilles Finishes Strong Junior Season For AIC

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor



CYNDI FONTANILLES

Arguably one of the best girls' basketball players ever to work the hardwood at Agawam High School, was Cyndi (Stone) Fontanilles.

Her resume goes a long way to proving that point. She graduated in 1994. Upon leaving, she left a memorable basketball career for posterity. Cyndi was All-Western Mass. all four years as a Brownie. As a senior, she was named the Massachusetts Player of the Year. She has a Western Mass. title and an appearance in the state finals under her belt. Among the current members (Lori Desimone, Kim Trudel, Kristen Patterson, Barb Maloni, Fontanilles) of the elite girls' 1,000-point club, her total of 1,327 still leads the list.

"Cyndi was a great all-around player. But her defense, based on quickness and speed, was tremendous. She could guard anyone, anytime," AHS Coach Lou Conte said of his former star. It's no wonder then that a bunch of colleges came calling to obtain her services at the next level. "The University of Connecticut put in a great deal of effort recruiting Cyndi," Conte noted. "In fact, if she'd gone there, she would most likely have been teamed up with Rebecca Lobo on their unbeaten national championship team," he added.

It was not to be. In the end, she chose a full scholarship to Division I St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia, which plays in the Atlantic 10 Conference. Cyndi saw it this way. "UConn was just too big. I wanted a school where the teacher-student relationship would be closer, but also where I could have every opportunity to play." And play she did, starting at center in her freshman year. But things didn't really go the way she thought they would. "There were little things that went wrong down there. I grew not to like it there," she said, not elaborating.

Cyndi took a year off. But the lure of the game

was just too great. "I played pick-up ball around the area. But it wasn't the same as the competition I'd been used to. Then I realized that besides wanting to play it, I never really wanted to get out of basketball in any way at all," she stated.

AIC's Lucky Day

So, she went looking. American International College in Springfield must not have believed its good fortune when she called on them. "We recruited her when she was at Agawam," Lady Yellow Jacket Coach Pete Cinella smiled. They signed her up to a full boat in 1996.

"I felt very comfortable going with them. They're a Division Two school. They play good basketball and also stress academics. They knew I'd been out a full year. But the kids and the coaching staff stayed with me and boosted my confidence."

It's been a nice, reciprocal relationship for two seasons. "We found her and she found us," Cinella said.

AIC finished at 16-12 this season and went to the Northeast 10 semi-finals before losing to Stonehill. Along the way, Cyndi, a junior, averaged 9.1 points a game, 6.8 rebounds, and was ranked seventh nationally in Division Two for blocked shots per game. She was also named to the Northeast 10 Honor Roll for the second straight year and the ECAC Honor Roll for the first time.

Perhaps her fondest memory of this past season was their win over Bentley, the NE 10 champs. Cyndi had seven points, two offensive rebounds, four offensive boards, five blocks, and two steals. It was Bentley's only loss of the season. They are currently into the round of eight in the Division Two NCAA Tournament. "Cyndi is an all-around player," said Cinella, whose dad, Tom, is the girls' basketball coach at Lee High School.

Part of Cyndi's success is the fact that she has switched out to the wing from the low post. "I like being able to face the basket. I think I can do more with the ball out there," she noted.

According to Cinella, she can play any position in the front court as well as the two guard, if needed. An injured thumb on her right (shooting) hand for most of the season forced her to develop a powerful left-handed move to the hoop, he added.

Persistence The Key

Seeing Patterson and Maloni reach the 1,000 point plateau this season, Cyndi looked back and explained what it takes to reach that milestone. "You have to have persistence. There might be a little luck involved, but not that much. In your freshman and sophomore seasons, you see others do it and think how nice it would be. Then, you start to have a chance and you live with it until it happens. When it does, it's the best feeling in the world," she laughed.

Occasionally, she talked to Patterson over the past year as the Brownies' senior standout was going for 1,000. "We discussed basketball because we both love it so much," Cyndi said.

But what she remembers most was refereeing what she called "little kids' games" while she was in high school. Patterson was one of those little kids. "She's come a long way," Cyndi smiled. They never played together in high school. Fontanilles graduated the year Patterson was in eighth grade. But, there is some chance Patterson might attend AIC in the fall, so they just might teammates next season.

She says she will never forget Coach Lou Conte. "I've had many wonderful coaches, but he stands out because he paid so much attention to the little things that helped you win. And he had the ability to get every ounce of effort out of you."

Cyndi is majoring in psychology and business. Her grade point average is an impressive 3.6.



CYNDI FONTANILLES, the all-time leading scorer for Agawam High School girls' hoop, drives to the hoop in a Division II upset win over nationally-ranked Bentley for AIC.

She's not sure what she'll do upon graduation in 1999. "Hopefully, it will be something that doesn't involve a desk," she said.

There might be an opportunity to play basketball in Europe. Coaching has come to mind as well. "If I could get into a good program where the kids and the support people are motivated and dedicated, I'd think about it." Then she added, "I would like to promote women's basketball as well."

Cyndi is 22 years-old, with it all in front of her. Currently, she has a job working with adolescent kids as she finishes up her junior year at AIC.

Italian Sporting Club Slates Comedy Show & Pasta/Chicken Buffet

The Italian Sporting Club, Cooper Street, Agawam will host a New York City Comedy Show and Italian Pasta & Chicken Buffet on Thursday, March 26th.

Cost is \$18 per person. Dinner will be served from 7:00-8:15 p.m., with the show from 8:30-10:00 p.m.

Three cruises on the Big Red Boat will be given away as door prizes.

For more information, call Mark Rossi at 746-2689.

CPR Classes To Be Offered By Boy Scout Troop 207

Boy Scout Troop 207, sponsored by the West Springfield American Legion Post 207, will be offering American Heart Association CPR classes on Saturday, April 18th.

From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., there will be a class for full CPR certification, and from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., a recertification class will be held (for AHA only; must include copy of current card).

The cost is \$40 per class, and make checks payable to "Boy Scout Troop 207." Please mail your check with your name, address, and home phone number to the West Springfield American Legion Post 207, 83 Park Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

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Girls' Swimming At AHS To Return In Strength Next Year

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' swim team finished up their year at 5-10 overall and 5-4 in their division. They will be losing only two seniors: Darcy Bates, a relay specialist, and Kelly Robinson.

They will have a wealth of experienced swimmers back next season, including five juniors, five sophomores, and five freshmen (all of whom will be a year older, wiser, and stronger).

Coach Kim Scofield admitted she had expected a better showing from her kids in 1997-1998. But things beyond anyone's control didn't help.

"We lost sophomore Caitlin Weisgerber and junior Bridget Donovan. They were two strong swimmers who could compete in a variety of events, including relays. We gave up some important points because of their absence," Scofield noted. Hopefully, they will both be back next season.

The coach feels the high point of the season was their win over Monson on January 30th. "They are always good, but we always swim tough against them. For some reason, our kids get all revved up for that meet," Scofield said.

The low point came with a loss to Palmer in the last meet of the season. "We are both equal in ability and talent. We should have done better in that one," the coach said.

Scofield Saw A Lot Of Improvement...

Scofield did see a lot of improvement on her young team. Some of the kids, as the season progressed, showed impressive progress of their own.

"Sarah Bates made great strides. It's getting so she can swim just about any event. But the freestyle and breast are her strongest disciplines right now," she said of the sophomore.

The coach also had praise for junior Shaunessy Egan, who is a backstroke and fly specialist. "Her times continued to go down over the entire season," the coach noted. Shannon Costa, only a freshman, made it to the states in the 500 free. "Shannon has a great future in front of her if she continues to work hard."

Also impressive was freshman Rebecca Morytko, who (according to the coach) can "swim anything." Scofield also gave a nod to junior Brenna McGinn. "She (Brenna) did well this year and can only get better."

Sophomore Lauren Kunkler, who not only swims but dives, should get some big points next season, according to Scofield.

As it has been for several years, numbers have hurt the team, but not in the way you'd think. "Actually, we could have done pretty well with the swimmers we had. Our problem was getting everyone to attend the meets. We have to have dedicated kids who show up all the time," the coach noted.

When the season was over, the coach really didn't have anything monumental to offer. "I don't like to say good-bye. I told the underclass people that we'd meet again next season. As for the seniors, I wished them good luck."

New England Youth Sports Offers Help With World Wide Web

Local Youth Sports leagues now have an opportunity to improve communications, attract new players, and promote the league **FREE OF CHARGE**.

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For details, contact Dave at 781-331-7898, New England Youth Sports, 775 Pleasant St., Suite 9, Weymouth, MA 02189.

This offer is extended until September 1, 1998.

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Darcy Bates Leaves Mark On Agawam High Girls' Swimming

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Darcy Bates was an important member of this year's Agawam High girls' swim team. She swam both individual events and was part of several relay teams. Recently, Darcy took some time out to talk about herself and her days at AHS.

She is 17 years-old. Her 18th birthday will be September 20th. She has spent her four years of secondary education at Agawam High.

Currently, she is taking micro-biology, AP English, physics, and AP math. She is also on the yearbook staff, where she is a photographer. She is a member of the National Honor Society as well as an Honor Society member of Quill and Scroll.

Micro-biology is her favorite course. Her instructor, Richard Joseph, is her top teacher.

Darcy plans on attending the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. Some day, she would like to become an emergency room physician.

She has been a swimmer at AHS for two years. Obviously, swimming is her favorite sport.

Her most memorable sports moment involves her performance throughout the year. "I constantly improved on my times, as did everyone else. That was exciting."

She added that finding out she was good at the butterfly also excited her. "It was my first year doing it. It's a tough stroke."

A "Good Run" For The Individual Members...

While the team as a whole didn't fare too well during the season, Darcy felt the individual members had a good run. "We were getting personal bests in almost every meet," she noted.

Their victory over a tough Monson team was a high point, she said. But perhaps the team's most exciting meet came against Cathedral. "We needed a first or second place in the last relay of the meet, the 400, to win. We got the second and a third to win it," she said.

Darcy's favorite food is rice. "Just plain rice, really," she smiled.

Green is her favorite color.

Her taste in transportation is rather expensive — a 1998 Mitsubishi 3000 GT.

She has no particular team or athlete on her list.

When Darcy wants to kick back and relax, it's usually at a friend's house.

She likes casual clothes such as jeans and sweaters.

She enjoys every kind of music, except for country.

Her top offering on the tube is "ER." "Jerry Maguire" is her favorite flick.

Her mom's name is Candy. David is her dad. She has a sister, Sarah, who is also a swimmer for the Brownie varsity. Her brother, Mike, is at the



AHS SENIOR DARCY BATES

Junior High. Darcy says she looks up to her parents.

When her days as a Brownie are done, she would like to be remembered as a hard worker.

Her coach, Kim Scofield, had this to say about her senior swimmer: "Darcy is a great kid with a good head on her shoulders. She'll be very successful in whatever she does."

Darcy is a member of Operation Friendship, the international summer youth exchange program sponsored at Feeding Hills Congregational Church. She'll be going to Europe this summer as part of their exchange program.

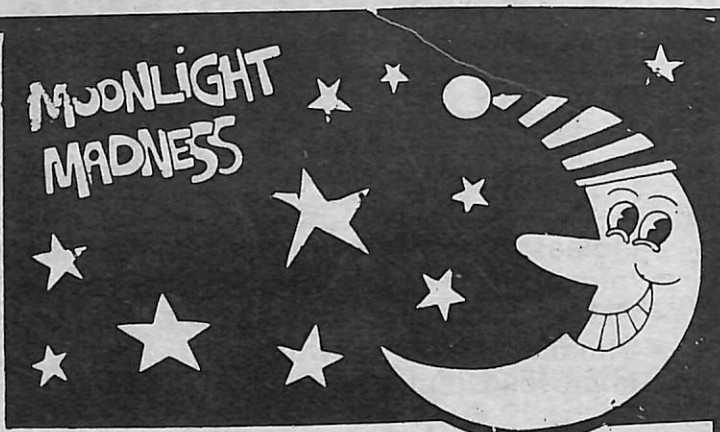
"I don't know exactly where yet," she said. Last year, a girl from Scotland came to stay with her family for a few weeks as part of the Operation Friendship program.

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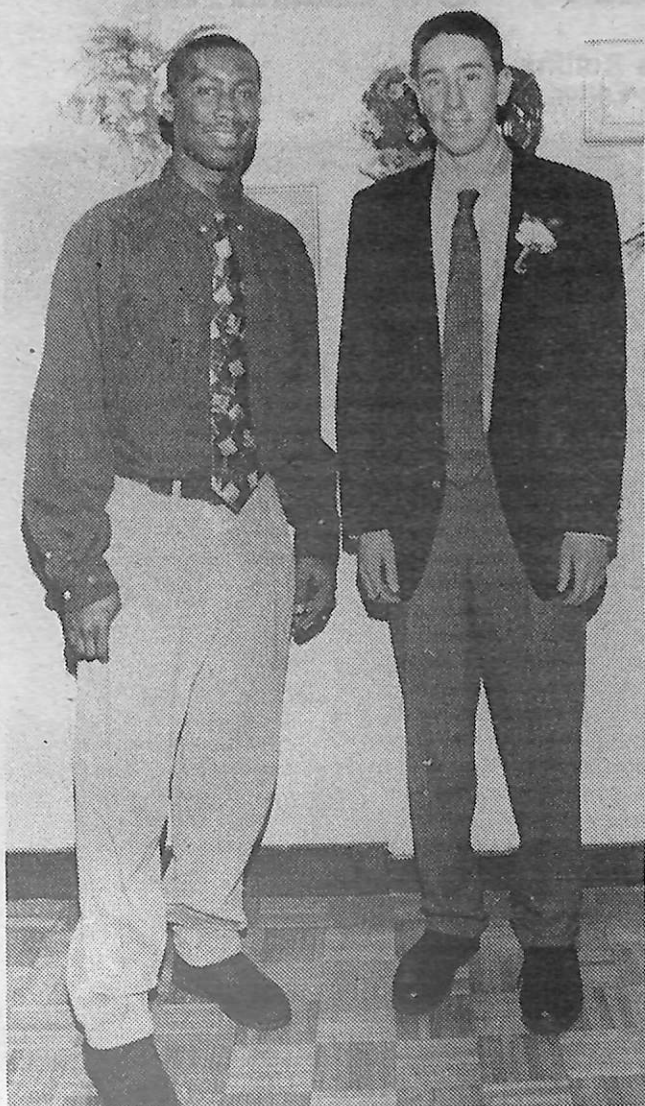
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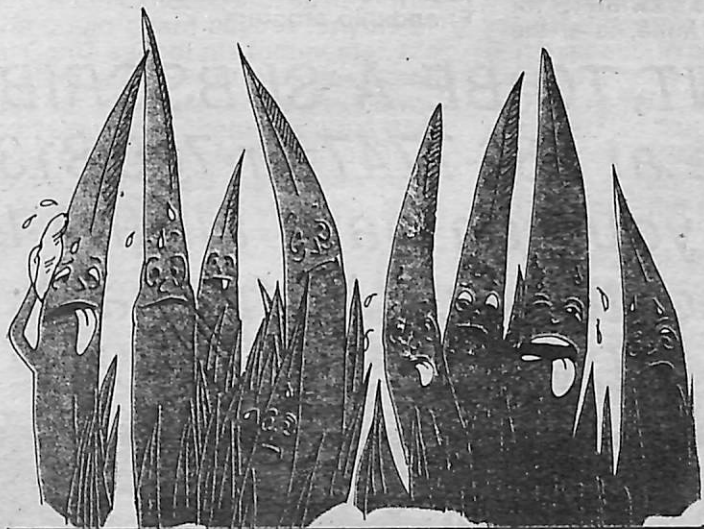
AT THE BOYS' BASKETBALL BANQUET: Hassan Robinson (head JV coach) and Kevin Cornwell (varsity captain). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



LAST WEEKEND, Agawam High School's 1997-98 boys' basketball team held its annual banquet at Ferruccio's in Agawam. Pictured above are the senior players on this year's team: Jeff Lyman, Ryan White, Shawn Anderson, Eric Melbourne, Kevin Cornwell, and Jason Hanscom. (Missing from photo: Bryan O'Quinn.) Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

For copies of photos in this edition, please call Jack Devine at 789-0053; he has all the negatives and will be glad to help you ... AAN!!!

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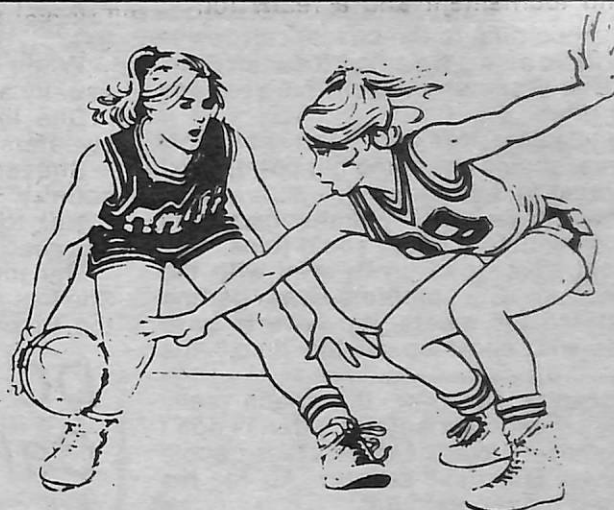
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St. John's II Team Wins CYO Title In 5th-6th Grade Girls

The St. John's 5th and 6th Grade CYO II basketball team finished in first place in the Basketball Tournament played February 27th-March 1st.

From the start it was exciting. When the St. John's CYO II girls took the court in their first game in Longmeadow on Friday night in the Division III CYO playoffs, they were up against the tournament favorites, St. Patrick's of South Hadley.

Both teams showed strong offensive skills during warm-ups, but just a few minutes into the game, it seemed clear that defense was going to make the difference. The girls from Agawam were up for this one and through most of the game, they kept a frustrated St. Pat's team way outside.

It was clear that the St. John's girls hadn't heard the other team was favored to win. At the final buzzer, it was Agawam, 25-8.

The second game at St. Mary's High School in Westfield found the St. John's girls up against the Ludlow CYO team. Agawam was down two players for this game, but as had happened before during regular season games, the rest of the girls stepped-up to meet the challenge.

A carefully balanced offense and defense again proved to be a successful strategy for St. John's CYO II. When the officials blew the final whistle on this one, it was Agawam, 21-6.

The third game in Holyoke brought the St. John's girls up against St. Mary's of Longmeadow. The girls knew this one was for the championship, and they gave it everything they had.

Again, St. John's kept their opponent's offense in check and controlled the game. Final score: Agawam 27, St. Mary's 11.

Congratulations, girls. You did a great job and your coaches and parents are very proud of you.

Congratulations also to our tournament organizers. The tournament was well-run and the officiating was outstanding!

And last, but certainly not least, congratulations and a huge thank you to Head Coach Larry Barker and his assistants, Jerry Czuprynski and Paul Glantz, for their time and work with the girls. It was an exciting tournament and a really fun season!

Turkey Shoots Conducted By Pioneer Sportsmen

The Pioneer Sportsman Club will be conducting turkey shoots on Sundays at 12:00 noon through April 5th.

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MEMBERS OF THE 5TH-6TH GRADE St. John's II team recently won the Division III Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) girls' basketball championship. Team members include, back row, from left - Head Coach Larry Barker, Tammy Gorman, Katie Gorman, Maria Doulakis, Elizabeth Barker, and Assistant Coach Jerry Czuprynski. Front row - Danielle Glantz, Corinne Cardin, Heather Darnell, Jennifer Sacco, and Julie Czuprynski.

Fitness First Announces Results Of Miracle Network Racquetball Tourney

MEN'S OPEN: 1. Dave Barnes; 2. Tex Kennedy; 3. Steve LaBier

MEN'S A: 1. John Norman; 2. Al Tetrault; 3. Ben Mendoza

MEN'S B: 1. Mike Shaffer; 2. Ryan Harlin; 3. Dean Mercadante; 1C. Bob Gonyea

MEN'S C: 1. Tom Tencati; 2. Sam Fay; 3. Aaron Vanderhoof; 1C. John Choinere

MEN'S D: 1. Mike Cleavall; 2. Anthony Russo; 3. Bill Burke; 1C. Don Heenan

MEN'S A DOUBLES: 1. Mason/Tencati; 2. Manicucci/Lewis; 3. Strycharz/Sawyer

MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES: 1. Labier/Rivera; 2. Norman/Norman; 3. Ripley/Clayton

WOMEN'S OPEN DOUBLES: 1. McCarthy/Merrill; 2. Ernst/Rassid; 3. Stahlek/Hunter

MIXED OPEN DOUBLES: 1. Kennedy/DuFrain; 2. DeMarco/Hunter

MEN'S B/C DOUBLES: 1. Berkowitz/Twining; 2. Harlin/Hyland; 3. Mirolli/Reardon

MIXED B/C DOUBLES: 1. Manicucci/Stahovich; 2. Grindle/Grindle; 3. Merrill/Merrill

MEN'S AGE 35-Over: 1. Al Tetrault; 2. John Lambert; 3. Pete Silvano

WOMEN'S A/B: 1. Laurie Lyman; 2. Wendy Tomka; 3. April Cloutier

WOMEN'S C/D: 1. Lori Joiner; 2. Evelyn Voorhees; 3. Mary Peltier

Eighth Annual Fish For D.A.R.E. Bass-Team Tournament Scheduled For Sat., April 18th

Southwick: The eighth annual Fish For D.A.R.E. Bass-Team Tournament, sponsored by Northeast Bass Anglers in conjunction with the Southwick Police Dept. D.A.R.E. Program, will be held Saturday, April 18th on Congamond Lakes in Southwick from 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

This is a benefit bass tournament with an entry fee of \$65 per team with a 50/50 payback for tournament sponsors, and an optional luncheon pool at a

cost of \$10 per team with a 100 percent payback.

Registration will be held from 5:30-6:30 a.m. at the North Ramp. Weigh-in will be at Saunders Boat Livery starting at 3:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is recommended. B.A.S.S. rules apply. Aerated livewells are required.

For more information call Gary at (413) 736-3044, Dave at (860) 745-3944, Jim at (860) 668-8924, or Al at (413) 569-3193 (after 6:00 p.m.).

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Bay West Mite C Hockey Takes 2nd At Martha's Vineyard

Congratulations to the Bay West Mite C hockey team, which took second place at the Martha's Vineyard Youth Hockey's Eighth Annual Tournament.

With an excellent team effort, Bay West was undefeated throughout the tournament, which took place March 6th-March 8th. During the championship game, Bay West took second place honors.

Scoring for Bay West were Brendan Ivers, Kurt Blankenburg, Kyle Bienia, and Tyler Ziemba. Strong offensive support was provided by Colin Hensel, Nick Kupiec, and Sean Walsh.

Goaltending duties were shared by Alex Barnes and Dan Matroni, with both registering shutout performances. Solid defensive efforts were turned in by Travis Ritter, Kyle Rosa, Matt Tassinari, and Sean Powers.

Coaches John Tassinari, Paul Blankenburg, Gary Matroni, and Gary Ziemba have seen these kids come a long way since the beginning of the season and were very pleased with the team's performance.

A very loud and supportive group of parents provided incentive for the team. Congratulations once again, Bay West Mite C, for an outstanding tournament.



MEMBERS OF THE Bay West Mite C hockey team: front row - Kyle Bienia, Dan Matroni, Alex Barnes, Sean Walsh, Tyler Ziemba, and Travis Ritter; back row - Kyle Rosa, Kurt Blankenburg, Brendan Ivers, Sean Powers, Nick Kupiec, Colin Hensel, and Matt Tassinari.

Oxbow Water Ski Show Team Slates Season Opener

The Oxbow Water Ski Show Team of Northampton will be doing its annual season opener called "Ice Out" on Saturday, April 4th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Oxbow Marina, Island Pond Road, Northampton.

There will be different types of daring waterskiing in the cold water. For more information, contact Bob or Rose at (413) 583-3162.

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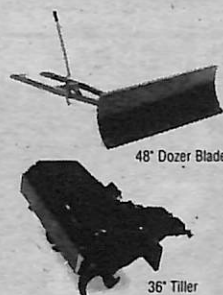
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* The following special terms will apply to this purchase, and only this purchase, until purchase is paid in full. The annual percentage rate will be 6.9% (monthly periodic rate of .575%). Purchase must be made between February 1, 1998 and May 31, 1998.

** Offer applies to Lawn and Garden Tractor financed on Toro's Revolving Charge Plan from February 1, 1998 to May 31, 1998. Subject to credit approval. The Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") may vary from month to month. As of September 1, 1997, the current APR is 21.9% (corresponding monthly periodic rate is 1.83%) with a \$.50 minimum monthly charge. No minimum monthly payment is required until October 1, 1998. Finance charges will be accrued from date of purchase unless paid in full by October 1, 1998.

*** Gas or electric trimmer or dump cart free with purchase of a Toro Wheel Horse® Garden Tractor and mowing deck between February 14, 1998 and March 29, 1998.

"Golf 98" Held At Fitness First Health Club...



AMONG THE SPEAKERS AT "GOLF 98," held on March 3rd at Fitness First in Feeding Hills, were Dr. John Corsetti (photo above) of New England Orthopedic Surgeons, and Jim Vernadakis (photo below) of NovaCare Outpatient Rehabilitation. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



ON TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD, NovaCare Outpatient Rehabilitation and Fitness First sponsored the presentation "Golf 98," which was held at Fitness First at 60 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Games And Lanes Indoor Soccer 3rd Session (As Of 3/15/98)

U-8 BOYS
Westfield
Agawam (Costa)
Agawam (Gonyeau)
Ludlow

W L T P
4 0 0 8
2 2 0 4
2 2 0 4
0 4 0 0

U-9 BOYS
Westfield
Ball Hogs
Ludlow Blasters
Bruno Attico
Holyoke
Ludlow Mustangs

W L T P
5 0 0 10
4 1 0 8
3 2 0 6
2 2 0 4
1 4 0 2
0 5 0 0

U-12 BOYS
West Side Eagles
Westfield Strikers
West Side (Mason)
Agawam (Perry)
Ajax
Agawam (Conlon)

W L T P
4 0 1 9
3 1 0 6
3 2 0 6
1 2 2 4
0 3 2 2
0 3 1 1

14-15 BOYS
Rockets
Agawam (Fay)
Agawam (Hearn)
Southwick

W L T P
3 1 0 6
2 2 0 4
1 2 1 3
1 2 1 3

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
Agawam
Westfield Berzerkers
Holyoke S.C. No. 2

W L T P
4 0 1 9
4 0 1 9
2 2 1 5

Holyoke S.C. No. 1
Valley S.C.

1 3 1 3
0 6 0 0

U-11 GIRLS
East Side
West Side
Brookside
Holyoke
Agawam Strikers

W L T P
4 0 0 8
2 1 1 5
2 2 1 5
2 2 0 4
0 4 0 0

U-12 GIRLS
Northampton
Ludlow Blue Devils
Agawam Lightning
Ludlow Viper
Luigi's
Holy Cross
Agawam (Kennedy)

W L T P
4 0 0 8
3 1 1 7
3 1 0 6
2 3 0 4
1 2 1 3
1 3 0 2
0 4 0 0

U-14 GIRLS
Our Lady Of Hope
West Side
South Hadley
Holyoke
Agawam
Holy Cross

W L T P
5 0 0 10
2 1 1 5
2 1 1 5
1 2 2 4
1 2 2 4
0 5 0 0

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
Agawam (Marsili)
Holyoke
Agawam (Cincotta)
West Side

W L T P
3 1 0 6
3 1 0 6
1 2 1 3
0 3 1 1

Mawaga Club In Agawam Slates Annual Lunker Derby For Sunday, March 29th

The Mawaga Club's ninth annual Lunker Derby has been scheduled for Sunday, March 29th, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It will take place on the grounds of the club at 377 Adams Street, Agawam.

There will be three prizes available: \$200 for the first-place finish, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third.

The cost is just \$15 per person, and this includes breakfast which will precede the derby itself from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Tickets for the Lunker Derby are available from the following businesses:

Dayga Printing, 662 Springfield Street, Feeding

Hills; American Classics Restaurant, 740 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills; Russ's Rooter, tel. 786-2075; Frank Pignatare's Auto Service Center, 395 Main Street, Agawam; Touchette's Catering, Inc., 32 Columbus Street, Agawam; Fran's Restaurant, 37 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills; Partner's Restaurant, 485 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills; Southgate Liquors, Inc., 842 Suffield Street, Agawam; Christo's Restaurant, 664 Suffield Street (Route 75), Agawam; Forest Park Rentals, 380 Dickinson Street, Springfield; Roberts Appliance Service, 74 So. Park Terr., Agawam; and John's Getty Auto, 10 Main Street, Agawam.





Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Spring At Last...

With spring finally arriving on Friday (March 20th), trout fishing has picked up at area ponds and lakes. Open water at Congamond Lakes and Hampton Ponds are inviting area anglers to try their luck.

The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has stocked quite a few 12-inch-plus trout into area waters over the last couple of weeks. The emphasis on stocking of quality fish instead of larger numbers of small fish, has met with angler approval here in the western part of the state.

Early mornings and evenings will continue to produce the best action on trout and brookstock Atlantic salmon. Trolled streamers and traditional hardware such as Mepps Rooster tails and Mooselooks will account for their fair share of hits.

During midday hours, go deep with leadcore line or downriggers. This is where a quality fish finder will be of great value in showing the depth that the fish are holding.

Shore-bound anglers will do well casting hardware or bottom fishing with worms or Power Bait.

Stripers are showing up in the Thames River and the mouth of the Connecticut River. It won't be too long before catchable numbers start arriving at the Enfield Dam. During the last few years, an explosion of striped activity at Enfield has eclipsed the fishing activity aimed at migrating shad populations there.

In addition to the action at Enfield, our own stretch of the river has accounted for some tremendous catches of stripers. Many are schoolie size, but fish over 30 pounds are not uncommon.

White perch catches in the Hamburg Cove area of the Connecticut River have been reported to be fairly consistent. Small jig and twister tail grub combos are working well, with white and chartreuse being the two most productive colors. Grass shrimp seem to be the preferred live bait.

This is an abundant fishery, but don't take more than you will realistically eat.

Cod are reported to be showing up in increasing numbers and sizes at various offshore wrecks. Pollack are numerous, but many of the pollack taken recently are under the 20-inch size limit.

Flounder fishing should be getting under way shortly; check the latest season, size, and bag limits of the state you are considering fishing. The marine regulations are subject to change, with the new regulations being discussed and finalized.

Two From AHS To Wrestle At Nationals

Agawam High School's Kevin McKay and Darrell Malachowski have qualified to participate in the National High School Wrestling Championships to be held at the Pittsburgh Pulumbo Center on the campus of Duquesne University, March 27th-29th.

Every wrestler who is presently in his senior year of high school and has been a high school State finalist is being invited to compete in this event. Last year, 676 State finalists competed from 46 states.

The top eight finishers in each weight class will be officially declared high school All-Americans and receive award plaques and certificates for themselves, their coach, and their school.

Contributions to offset expenses for Kevin, Darrell, and Coach Phil Tomkiel will be thankfully accepted. Send contributions to: Donna McKay, 45 Brookside Drive, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check the classified ads in each edition of the Advertiser News...

Parks & Recreation Dept. To Hold Registration For Summer Camps

STAFF

Mary M. Keller, *Director* Nancy C. Pryce, *Secretary*

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department Office is located at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street (right driveway, rear entrance). Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 821-0514.

Cancellations and postponements will be announced on the Recreation Department recording, 821-0514. The department reserves the right to set a maximum for each program and to cancel any program due to insufficient registration.

No unregistered person may attend a program at any time. Children must be of correct age before the program begins.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration for all camps is scheduled for Saturday, April 4th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Junior High School cafeteria. After the initial camp registration date, registration will be held at the Recreation Department Office, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Registration for all recreation programs is limited and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration will not be accepted before the initial registration date, and phone registrations will not be accepted. All fees are required at the time of registration and are made payable to the Town of Agawam.

A parent's or legal guardian's signature is required for all children's programs. The Recreation Department welcomes persons with disabilities in all programs and services. Please call our office so that we will know how to best serve you.

INSURANCE

The Town of Agawam does not carry insurance to cover hospitalization or medical costs for anyone injured while participating in or watching any of our Parks and Recreation programs. PLEASE NOTE — you enter into our programs at your own risk.

The Town of Agawam Parks and Recreation Department is not responsible for any personal belongings which are lost, stolen, or damaged while participating in or watching any of our activities.

PERRY LANE PARK DAY CAMP

Perry Lane Day Camp is an outdoor day camp for children ages six (or who have completed kindergarten) through 11 years of age. The camp meets at Perry Lane Park Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (there is no before or after camp care available).

Activities include a wide variety of sports, arts and crafts, daily swim lessons, group games, free play, afternoon free swim, special events, and use of the surrounding wooded area. One field trip per session will be scheduled.

Campers will be divided into age-appropriate groups. The camp will meet rain or shine unless there is a severe weather situation.

If camp needs to be cancelled, notification will be announced on the Recreation Department recording, 821-0514. Limit: 160 campers per session.

Session dates: Session I - June 29th through July 10th (no camp July 3rd); Session II - July 13th through July 24th; Session III - July 27th through August 7th; Session IV - August 10th through August 21st.

Fee: \$100 per camper per session.

NOTE: Participants may register for a maximum

of two (two-week sessions) for the full-day camp at the first registration on April 4th. Campers may register for additional sessions if openings exist on May 4th in the Recreation Office. Non-resident children may register for camp if space is available after Memorial Day at the Recreation Department.

PRE-SCHOOL CAMP

Pre-School Camp is held at Perry Lane Park for children ages four and five as of July 1, 1998. The camp meets Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Activities include sports, games, arts and crafts, and special events. Limit: 30 campers per session.

Session dates: Session I - June 29th through July 10th (no camp July 3rd); Session II - July 13th through July 24th; Session III - July 27th through August 7th; Session IV - August 10th through August 21st.

Fee: \$60 per camper per session.

Participants may register for as many sessions as they wish, provided space is available. Non-resident children may register for camp if space is available after Memorial Day at the Recreation Department.

TEEN CAMP

Teen Camp is held at Perry Lane Park for children ages 11 (as of July 1, 1998 or who have completed sixth grade) and up. The camp meets Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Activities include sports, arts and crafts, games, swimming, special events, and use of the surrounding wooded area. One field trip per session will be scheduled. The camp will meet rain or shine unless there is a severe weather situation.

If camp needs to be cancelled, notification will be announced on the Recreation Department recording, 821-0514. Limit: 40 campers per session.

Session dates: Session I - June 29th through July 10th (no camp July 3rd); Session II - July 13th through July 24th; Session III - July 27th through August 7th; Session IV - August 10th through August 21st.

Fee: \$100 per camper per session.

Participants may register for as many sessions as they wish, provided space is available. Non-resident children may register for camp if space is available after Memorial Day at the Recreation Department.

PIRANHAS SWIM TEAM

The Agawam Recreation Department sponsors a competitive swim team for children ages five through 18. The summer session begins the end of April at the Agawam Junior High School Pool.

Registration will be held in the Recreation Office Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., beginning April 13th. Watch for detailed flyers at a later date.

YOUTH TRACK PROGRAM

Participants will learn the fundamentals of track and field. The program is open to children ages seven through 14 and will meet at the Agawam High School track on Sunday afternoons beginning April 26th.

Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office.

Fee: \$25 for six weeks.

Instructor: Dan Pryce.

ADDITIONAL SUMMER PROGRAMS

A separate flyer will be published in May to include all other summer programs (i.e., pool schedule, swim lessons, etc.).

Eddy Carroll III Of Suffield Looking For Another Huge Season At Riverside Speedway

Riverside Park Speedway's reigning Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock Division Champion is looking to make 1998 another successful year.

Eddy Carroll III of Suffield, Connecticut won that division's title in 1996 and 1997. Carroll hopes that this season, Riverside Park Speedway's 50th Anniversary, will bring him another title.

"I'm very excited about going for a third (championship)," said Carroll. "No Pro Stock driver has ever done it and I would certainly like to be the first."

Carroll says the No. 17 Riverside—The Great Escape-sponsored car is ready to go for 1998. Carroll will return with the same crew as last year.

Added to the quest for a third consecutive Pro Stock Division Championship is the Carroll family heritage of Riverside Park. Riverside Park Speedway will celebrate its 50th season of auto racing and the grandson of the park's founder can feel the excitement. "It would be unbelievably special," said Carroll, "to win another championship this year. It's been really neat watching Riverside Park grow along with NASCAR and NASCAR growing along with the park." NASCAR will also celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 1998.

Carroll feels that the 1998 Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock Division will be the most competitive ever. Carroll won the 1997 track title by just 12

points over Barry Gray. Carroll predicts that seven to 10 drivers will have a chance to win each Saturday night. Along with Carroll and Gray, Todd Owen, Jeff Connors, Tom Fearn, and John Lobo are favorites to win the division title.

"We have a good time and we're competitive," says Carroll of his team. "As long as we're competitive, we'll keep doing it."

Along with Riverside—The Great Escape, Carroll's team is sponsored by Snap On Tools and New England Racing Fuels.

"Having Eddy as one of our best drivers makes my job just a little easier," jokes Director of Auto Racing Joe Lewandoski. "His name adds to the heritage here at Riverside Park Speedway and it doesn't stop there. Eddy is a great driver and a deserving champion. We're happy to have him, his family, and his team here each Saturday night," continued Lewandoski.

Carroll and the rest of the Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock Division will make their 1998 debut on Sunday, March 29th. The 40-lap Pro Stock race will be part of the Spring Classic Weekend and follows the Pepsi 200 NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour race. "You can never tell what's going to happen in racing," says Carroll. "But, we'll give it a shot."

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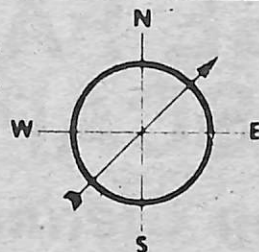
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REWARD: For the return or info. leading to the return of car stereo and crossover stolen Sat., March 14th, from Corey St., Agawam. No questions asked. Mike, 789-9304.

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FOR SALE

BEANIES FOR SALE: Valentino and others. 786-8604.

HOUSE FOR SALE: By owner - Feeding Hills antique colonial. 11 rms., 8/3 in-law, 6/5 two-family, 3,100 s.f., 2/3 acre, AG pool, lg. shed. \$179,900. 789-3938.

FOR SALE: 1994 Lincoln T.C. Executive Series. 71,500 miles (mostly highway). Executive car in excellent condition. \$16,000. Call 786-5449.

FOR SALE: Spaulding custom-crafted Gold Label tour edition golf clubs. 2-PW irons, 1-3-5 woods, putter, ball retriever, and Eclipse stand alone bag. Excellent condition. \$375. Call 789-1011.

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OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE: 100 Main Street, Agawam, MA. Great location. Newly renovated, ample parking. Call (413) 786-3535.

FREE

FREE: Twin size motorized hospital bed (no sides) and blue stuffed rocker. Call 786-0298 after 2:00 p.m.

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CRAFT FAIR: Sat., March 28th, at 109 Katherine Drive, 10 to 2. Wreaths, floral, painted wood decorations, candy. See our display at Ayre Realty in the Agawam Center.

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1988 Cad. Sedan Deville, 78K \$3,895 - \$2,995
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